


**Turn your savings around.**

For the best financial advice available, call into your local branch. Or telephone us on **0800 222 397**, 8am to 9pm Monday to Friday, and 8am to 4pm Saturday.

 **ABEY NATIONAL**  
Because life's complicated enough.

©1990



Ex-Wi  
order  
GUCCI  
killin

John Hooper

was

ane scan



## In G2 Europe society pages today: What chance of success at the Buenos Aires global climate conference?

+ How Ted Hughes turned the chocolate-box view of Nature on its head

# Ron Davies: sixth arrest made

Police say Guardian blackmail report 'pretty much full story'

Will Woodward and Ewen Macaskill

**A**SIXTH person was arrested in connection with the robbery of Ron Davies yesterday as police sources confirmed that a Guardian report gave the fullest account yet of the events leading to his resignation as Welsh Secretary.

The man, in his 20s, was arrested by police at about 12m in Brixton and was being detained at a south London police station, Scotland Yard said.

The Guardian's report yesterday, which said that Mr Davies had agreed to meet a man who was attempting to blackmail him after the MP allegedly made a gay sexual advance on Clapham Common — was described by one

police source as "pretty much the full story".

The former Welsh Secretary, after a week of torrid media coverage, returned to a hiding place in England with his wife Christine and daughter Angahard after delivering an emotional personal statement to the Commons on Monday. Friends said he regarded the statement as a success and is not planning any further public statements or interviews over the next fortnight.

But with large parts of the affair still unresolved, his circle began an inquest into the handling of Mr Davies' dramatic resignation last Tuesday evening. They said the resignation letter issued in Mr Davies' name had been a disaster.

A source close to Mr Davies said it fell between two strategies: he should either have made a clean breast of it or described it as a private matter, in effect saying nothing. But by offering a sketchy account of what had happened on Clapham Common he had created a media frenzy.

Huw Roberts, one of Mr Davies' special advisers at the Welsh Office, also complained

that civil servants had denied him access to his minister for a crucial 36 hours.

Mr Roberts, who had been at home in Wales on holiday, heard about the resignation on Tuesday afternoon and immediately phoned Mr Davies' private office at the Welsh Office but he was denied any contact with Mr Davies.

Mr Roberts said: "While it is understandable that they would seek to protect their outgoing minister against the torrent of applications from the media, one would have hoped the different relation-

ship between a special adviser and a minister would have allowed them to ensure that contact was made. It was a crucial period."

Mr Roberts praised the supportive role of Tony Blair and his chief press officer, Alastair Campbell, who have been speaking to Mr Davies on a daily basis. But Mr Roberts is among those who believe the resignation letter was a mistake. Mr Campbell had a hand in the resignation letter but Downing Street had no regrets yesterday, insisting that Mr Davies had not wanted to make a clean breast

of it. The other option, to say nothing, was regarded by Downing Street as impractical.

Pressure was growing last night on the new Welsh Secretary, Alun Michael, to declare whether he intends to stand as prospective First Minister of the Welsh Assembly after Mr Davies' resignation.

Donald Fearon, 38, appeared in court on Saturday charged with robbing Mr Davies of his Ford Granada car and its contents. Four people arrested last week in connection with the incident remain on police bail.

## Boost for organ swaps

John Hooper in Rome

**N**OW that French surgeons have transplanted a hand, their Italian counterparts are itching to sow something that is just as difficult to cope with.

"We are ready. We could even do it tomorrow," said Nicola Scuderi, lecturer in plastic and reconstructive surgery at Rome's main university, the Sapienza. "All we are waiting for is authorisation from the (health) minister."

He was referring to his plan for the world's first penis transplant. Mr Scuderi said he had put together a team that could carry out the operation at the Umberto I hospital in Rome. And he already had a waiting list of three people, eager to be given a dead man's member.

Candidates would include those who had been amputated by accident or — like Wayne Bobbitt, the American whose wife cut off his penis — by design.

The biggest numbers, though, would be those seeking to change sex — or even re-change sex.

The patients on the waiting list included someone who had started life as a man, had a sex change operation, and then regretted it, Mr Scuderi told the Rome newspaper, *Il Messaggero*.

"Up to now, we have had to carry out reconstructions of the penis — an extremely difficult operation because we have to take muscles from the leg and reshape them," he added.

Transplants, though, involve huge challenges of their own.

The immune system has to be heavily suppressed, making the patient more prone to disease and raising the ethical question of whether the end product is a healthier or sicker patient.

There is also a possible legal obstacle. A recent law allows Italian doctors to use organs for transplants only if the relatives of the prospective donor have not registered an objection.

"We want to know from the minister if this principle also applies in the case of penis transplants," the surgeon said.

In Catholic Italy, there is a big difference between next-of-kin giving doctors carte blanche to remove a loved one's hand and leaving them free to decide the potential donor's manhood and sow it on to an aspirant transsexual.

Mr Scuderi is undaunted. He is already looking to a future in which the use of a dead person's organ would no longer be necessary because arrangements could be made among the living for "the exchange of sexual organs between those who decide to become women and those who decide to become men".

## Soldiers who shot youth stay in army

John Mullin  
Ireland Correspondent

**T**WO Scots Guards who chased an unarmed Catholic teenager through three streets in north Belfast before shooting him dead were yesterday told they would be allowed to continue their careers in the army. The decision sparked fury among nationalists.

Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, was among those who called for convicted murderers James Fisher and Mark Wright to be discharged from the army. But she lost a cabinet wrangle with George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, and an army board decided they should be allowed to stay on for "exceptional reasons".

Throughout the Troubles, only four British soldiers have been convicted of murder. None has been in jail for more than six years, and each has been welcomed back into service after release.

The development comes as Private Lee Clegg, whose conviction for the murder of Catholic joyrider Karen Reilly, aged 18, in 1990, was quashed this year, faces a retrial in Belfast on Monday.

Fisher and Wright shot Peter McBride, an 18-year-old father of two, after he had been searched by a routine foot patrol in the New Lodge area of north Belfast in September 1992. They were freed last month two days before the anniversary of the killing.

Jenn McBride, aged 47, the victim's mother, was disgusted. There had been indications that the soldiers would be dismissed. She said: "It will let people see exactly what way we are thought of in Northern Ireland."

Mick Conlon, a Sinn Féin councillor in north Belfast, said: "The decision by the British Army shows a blatant disregard for the life of Peter McBride. It legitimises what in effect is a random and bru-

tal killing. He was cruelly gunned down in cold blood."

Paul O'Connor, of the Pat Finucane Centre, a civil rights organisation based in Derry, said: "A young man was searched, found to have nothing on him, and then chased. He was shot dead as he was getting further away, and the message this decision sends to the nationalist community at this time could hardly be any clearer."

Fisher, now aged 30, from Ayr, and Wright, 25, from Arbroath, claimed at their trial at Belfast crown court in 1994 that they believed McBride was carrying a coffee jar bomb, at the time a weapon regularly used against the security forces. They also argued that they feared McBride was an IRA member leading them into a trap.

But Lord Justice Kelly, the trial judge, accepted that McBride, a petty criminal with no links to the IRA, had been searched before he ran off. He was 70 metres away from the soldiers with the gap increasing when they fired five shots at him. They hit him twice. He was found to be unarmed. The only item he was carrying was a T-shirt.

Lord Justice Kelly labelled both men liars, rejecting claims that there were reasonable grounds for believing McBride was carrying a bomb. He also said McBride was posing no immediate threat when murdered.

Campaigners for the soldiers were delighted. They believe that they were guilty only of a tragic error of judgment.

Independent MP Martin Bell said: "I know they both wanted to stay as soldiers and I am very pleased for them."

MP Ken Maginnis, security spokesman for the Ulster Unionists, said it would be ironic if the two soldiers had been dealt with in a more harsh manner than "those who have committed well-planned, pre-meditated murders on behalf of terrorist organisations and are now



Scots Guards Mark Wright (left) and James Fisher, who shot dead Peter McBride (above right) WWW.PHOTOGRAPH CHARLES KNIGHT

being released back into society".

Colonel Tim Spicer, now director of Sandline, recently embroiled in controversy over the supply of arms to Sierra Leone, was the men's commanding officer. He said: "It was absolutely disgraceful that they were convicted in the first place."

The Ministry of Defence said the army board, which included Armed Forces Minister Doug Henderson, had listened to both the guardsmen and Mr McBride's family before arriving at its decision.

The board took into account the security situation

at the time of the shooting. A member of the soldiers' unit had been killed the previous month in a terrorist attack, and there were worries about coffee jar bomb attacks.

It had made allowances for their conviction, their continued loyalty to the army and their unblemished records.

Those taking the decision with Mr Henderson were Chief of the General Staff General Sir Roger Wheeler, Assistant Chief of the General Staff Major General Mike Willocks, Adjutant General Sir Alex Harley and 2nd Permanent Under Secretary Roger Jackling.

Roy Greenslade, G2, page 5

## 400 killed, four convicted

Security forces have killed 400 people during 30 years of the Troubles. Nineteen British soldiers have been charged with murder. Man-slaughter is not an available option. Four convicted; none spent more than six years in prison.

Private Lee Clegg, then 20, was convicted in 1993 for the murder three years earlier of Karen Reilly, 18, the passenger in a stolen car in west Belfast. He claimed he was acting in defence of his colleagues as driver Martin Peake, 17, drove at them at speed. He was found guilty after forensic tests indicated the

crucial shot was fired into the car's rear, after the danger was past. Clegg was freed in 1995, and welcomed back into the Army. He works as a physical education instructor, and was promoted. His conviction was quashed this year. He faces retrial on Monday.

Private Ian Thain, then 18, from Doncaster, shot unarmed Catholic Thomas Reilly, 23, road manager for the pop group Bananarama, through the heart in 1984. Thain claimed he acted in self-defence. He

was the first soldier convicted of murder, served three years, and allowed back into his regiment. He left the Army a year later.

Scots Guardsmen James Fisher, now aged 30, from Ayr, and Mark Wright, now 24, from Ayr, were found guilty in 1995 of the murder three years earlier of Peter McBride, 18.

## No love lost, but Labour satire is premature

### Review

Michael Billington

Ugly Rumours  
Tricycle Theatre

**T**HERE is only one thing letting dramatists hate more than a Tory government. That, of course, is a Labour government. And Tariq Ali and Howard Brenton have wasted no time in penning a flailing and unfocused satire on the Blair administration for failing to deliver the red-blooded socialism it never actually promised: after only 18 months, their ejaculations seem somewhat premature.

Satire demands moral rage on the part of its practitioners and a visible corruption in its target. Here you feel Ali and Brenton are simply registering their pique at New Labour's failure to live up to their personal dreams. And although they score one or two bull's-eyes — such as Labour's humiliating subservience to Murdoch and to Clinton's foreign policy — for the most part you feel it is still too early to accuse the Government of some kind of grand betrayal.

So what Ali and Brenton use as the spine of their argument is an assumed personal and ideological hostility between Blair and Brown. Tony Boy, as he is here called, is therefore seen as a snarling airhead at the mercy of his spin-doctor, Polly Mendacity. Brown,

dobbed Gordon Macduff and spun by one Charlie Ferrago, becomes the possible keeper of the flame of old-fashioned socialism who holds secret conclaves with union leaders and Lionel Jospin, but is eventually outflanked and driven into Scottish exile.

Whatever divisions there may be between Blair and Brown, they hardly warrant the Shakespearean parallels here invoked. And, as if recognising that, Ali and Brenton change tack and accuse Blair of a grand plan to disperse with parliamentary government purely through focus groups and an annual democracy day in the Dome. Given Labour's plans for devolution, elected mayors and Lords reform, it seems a bit rich to accuse

them of a dislike of the democratic system.

Occasionally Ali and Brenton's barbs hit home. Blair's long-term plan to merge the TUC and CBI raises a sickly laugh. The vision of Murdoch as a man who simply wants to use Britain as a base to buy Europe, with Labour's connivance, is also horribly plausible. And Blair's telephonic subservience to a trigger-happy Clinton and nervous question of "Do you mind telling me where your targets are?" is too close to truth for comfort.

But much of the writing smacks of wild desperation and has none of the grand grotesquerie of a play such as Brenton and Hale's *Pravda*. One is left to enjoy such modest pleasures as Sylvia Syms's

double impersonation of a batty Thatcher haunting the Downing Street cellars and of a Queen terrified of the idea of resurgent Princess Dianas being sighted like so many reborn Elvises.

Neil Mullarkey endows Blair with a cipher-like charm, while Gordon Kennedy plays Brown as a ruggedy tortured soul. Jaye Griffiths and Carla Mendonca also co-liven Christopher Morahan and Stephen Rayne's production as a pair of warring spin-doctors. But there is something provisional and premature about this satire: the time to really go for the jugular will be after Labour has grown, if it does, bloated and diseased with power.

This review appeared in later editions yesterday.



Ted Hughes: country's loss

## Turbulent soul of English poetry laid to rest

continued from page 1

Under the arch gate of St Peter's, up the flint path laid by French prisoners during the Napoleonic wars and under the 13th century crampstone tower, Frieda and Nicholas — Hughes' children by Sylvia Plath — carried the coffin of their father, helped by four other pall-bearers.

The first hymn was O Love That Will Not Let Me Go, which everyone in this earnest congregation knew referred to the love of God. In the address, the poet's old Cambridge friend the Reverend Terence McCaughey, from Trinity College, Dublin, spoke repeatedly of Hughes's tenderness.

"He was there for us at all kinds of times, some of them dark. In return, his loved ones and friends were referred to the vortex of suffering, agony and loss into which he was drawn from time to time."

From outside North Tawton, the Faber and Faber chairman Matthew Evans, Dame Diana Rigg and Mel-

vyn Bragg were in the congregation. Afterwards Hughes' body was cremated.

A public memorial service is likely in London. But St Paul's or Westminster Abbey cannot hope to do better, or with more passion, depth and dignity, than St Peter's did yesterday.

سكرا من الامم

010 011



# Ex-wife ordered Gucci killing

Rejected spouse's greed and fury led to fashion heir's death, writes John Hooper in Rome

**T**HE former wife of the last Gucci to head the fashion firm that bore his name was yesterday found guilty of orchestrating his murder and given a 29-year jail sentence.

Even with good behaviour, it could mean that Patrizia Reggiani, aged 50, a former society beauty, will be a pensioner by the time she emerges from prison.

The woman the Italian press took to calling the "Dark Lady" as the grim details of her case emerged, reacted cryptically to the decision in a Milan court. "Truth is the daughter of time, so I shall take time," one of her lawyers quoted her as saying, when she turned to him after hearing the verdict.

He added that she had said — referring to the judges and jurors — "Evidently, they did not believe me." Prison officers escorted the diminutive convict from the court through a crowd of jostling reporters and photographers.

Reggiani's defence team immediately announced an appeal. "With this sentence we can look ahead," said Giovanni Maria Dedola, noting as significant the fact that the court had not heeded the prosecution's call for a life sentence.

The two judges and six jurors reached their joint decision at the end of a five-month trial over the killing of Guccio, who was 46 when he was shot dead on the stairs to his Milan office in 1995.

The trial hinged on the interaction between the high-life world of the former Mrs Guccio and the low-life world of her fellow conspirators.

These included her confidante, a former boutique owner from Naples, Giuseppina Aurilemma, who was

given 25 years for helping to orchestrate the killing; the night porter of a down-at-heel Milan hotel, Ivano Savioni, who was given 26 years for assembling the hit squad; and a compulsive gambler, Orazio Cicale, who drove the getaway car, was given 29 years.

"I've reflected a lot over these long months," Savioni told the court. "I know that I face many long years in prison for what I've done. I ask the pardon of Guccio's children and am horrified that things went so much further than I intended."

The sole life sentence was handed out to the man convicted of actually pulling the trigger, Benedetto Ceraulo. He was the only defendant apart from Reggiani to protest his innocence, as he continued to do yesterday. "I have nothing to do with this murder," he told reporters before being led away.

The evidence against Ceraulo rested largely on hearsay. His alleged partner, Cicale, backed his claims of innocence but refused to put a name to the real murderer, claiming his family could face reprisals if he did. Ceraulo's lawyer said afterwards that the court had "mixed up suspicion and proof."

By contrast, Cicale, who confessed to his role in the crime, said his sentence was "right for what I did". His lawyer said her client had become gravely ill since the start of the trial and that she would ask for him to serve out his sentence under house arrest.

Some hours before the verdict was announced yesterday, Reggiani read a statement to the court protesting her innocence. Her lawyers had maintained she merely fantasised about her husband's death, and that her friend "Pina" Aurilemma car-



Patrizia Reggiani in court in Milan yesterday after being sentenced to 29 years in prison for orchestrating the killing of her ex-husband and one-time fashion tycoon, Maurizio Guccio

ried out the killing so as to be able to blackmail her.

"I've been ingenious to the point of stupidity. I found myself involved despite myself, but an accomplice — never. I firmly deny that," Reggiani said.

She could yet be implicated in further proceedings concerning the death of her adoptive father. Her mother left her natural father for one Fernando Reggiani, a haulage tycoon.

During the trial, the late Mr Reggiani's adopted son alleged to the police that Patrizia and her mother had had his father poisoned. Vincenzo Reggiani said in a statement that after his father became ill with cancer, Patrizia's mother brought in a doctor who gave him an injection.

"A few seconds later he

began to gasp. Red spots broke out all over his face, and he died." Then, he said, Patrizia's mother asked the doctor: "All done?"

The trial with its tales of opulence, vindictiveness and astonishing greed has held Italy in its thrall, offering rare glimpses into a world of bizarre values.

Maurizio Guccio — the last grandson of the founder of the dynasty, Guccio Guccio — was for several years head of one of the world's best-known businesses.

Yet he relied heavily on the most primitive of beliefs. A maga — a white witch — testified that she had once been called to his chalet in St Moritz to test for evil. She had lit candles throughout the house. And they had all gone out.

## Riches to rags

**1972:** Maurizio Guccio and Patrizia Reggiani marry despite vigorous opposition from Maurizio's father, Rodolfo. Ms Reggiani later claimed that the early stages of their marriage were blighted by her husband's temporary impotence. But she gave birth to two daughters, Alessandra and Allegra.

**1983:** Maurizio inherits Rodolfo's controlling stake in the company on the latter's death.

**1985:** He leaves Patrizia.

**1986:** His uncle Aldo accuses Maurizio of forging Rodolfo's signature to

## GUCCI

avoid inheritance taxes. Maurizio flees to Switzerland to avoid jail, leaving Guccio firm in chaos.

**1988:** Maurizio becomes chairman of Guccio.

**1992:** Patrizia has surgery to remove a brain tumour.

**1992:** Maurizio divorces Patrizia, who receives £440,000 a year alimony — a sum she dismisses as "a plate of lentils".

**1993:** Maurizio Guccio loses control of the business to a consortium of mainly Arab investors.

**1995, March 27:** Maurizio shot dead on the steps leading to his office in central Milan.

**1997, January:** Patrizia arrested, accused of masterminding murder.

**1997, December:** Police raid Patrizia's Milan cell. They

find faxes with details of her Monte Carlo bank account at the time of the alleged murder plot containing handwritten notes suggesting large sums had been transferred to her friend, "Pina" Aurilemma.

**1998, May:** Trial begins.

**1998, October:** The prosecution calls for Patrizia to be given a life sentence.

**1998, November 3:** Patrizia Reggiani found guilty of planning the murder of Maurizio and sentenced to 29 years in jail.

Research: Laura Milne

## He was dead. 'Paradise...'

John Hooper in Rome

**T**HE biggest question left unanswered as the trial of Patrizia Reggiani and her associates entered its final weeks was why a woman who had devoted her life to the pursuit of wealth should risk spending the rest of it in the squalor and poverty of a jail.

Her lawyers argued that her judgment had been warped by a brain operation in 1992. But a panel of court-appointed experts offered a different explanation. What they found was a degree of narcissism and arrogance so extreme it almost constituted a personality disorder. But not quite.

"Just because you go around with your nose in the air and are easily offended doesn't mean that you aren't an ordinary member of the public," one of the psychologists told the presiding judge.

From Patrizia Reggiani's point of view, it was arguably the most damaging evidence of all. It suggested that she was capable of putting the avenging of her wounded pride ahead of even the things she appeared to love best.

Once a beauty whose dark good looks elicited comparisons to Elizabeth Taylor, Patrizia Reggiani went after money with single-minded dedication. But she never had the slightest intention of earning any. What she was looking for was a rich husband. She found him at a party in Milan in the shape of Maurizio Guccio.

Maurizio's father, Rodolfo, initially saw La Reggiani as merely a gold-digger. But with the passage of time he



seems to have developed a grudging respect for her strength of character. The feckless spendthrift Maurizio did what he told him.

"Patrizia was like a cushion," Patrizia's mother said recently. "He took the imprint of the last person to sit on him."

But in 1983, his father, Rodolfo, died and Maurizio was left a half-share in the family fashion business. With wholly unexpected vigour, he seized the chairmanship, and proved himself a match for his legendary quarrelsome relatives.

The change in Maurizio's personality put an unbearable strain on a marriage founded on the interplay between a weak husband and a strong wife. In 1985, Maurizio walked out for good.

Patrizia Reggiani, who had opted to live the whole of her life through her husband, was left with — as she saw it — almost nothing. Few people would call it that. She had a

large apartment in the very best part of Milan. She had alimony of \$440,000 a year.

But she wanted more — her husband's chalet in St Moritz, for example, his yacht, the *Cresle*, and his house in New York. "She used to say that he had given them to her as gifts and so they were hers," Piero Faroldi, a former legal adviser, testified.

Another lawyer and friend, Franco Geuna, said: "Two things kept Patrizia going: her love of her daughters and her hatred of her husband." They became lethally entwined.

In 1993, Maurizio Guccio lost control of the family firm to the Arab-led consortium that owned it today. As Reggiani saw it, he had squandered the birthright of their two daughters, Alessandra and Allegra.

What is more, he had taken up with another woman and his wife feared that he would leave to his new partner what remained of his fortune.

As her husband's grip on the family business started to weaken, Reggiani began openly asking friends and near-strangers like how she could get him killed.

Her mother, who came over from Monte Carlo to testify and appeared in court supporting herself with a silver-topped cane, said her daughter made the inquiries as routinely as if she were issuing an invitation to an outing.

"It was as if she was saying, 'Let's go and have tea at Sant'Ambrogio [one of Milan's most exclusive cafes].'"

"She asked everyone," said Mr Geuna. "Even superficial acquaintances. We didn't pay it any attention." But someone did.

Giuseppina ("Pina") Aur-

ilemma, who first got to know the Guccis when she held the franchise for one of the company's shops in Naples, had become Patrizia Reggiani's closest friend. Yet according to his Aurilemma, it was not until 1994 that her friend asked her if she could arrange the murder.

"She thought I might know somebody suitable," she said. Ms Aurilemma did not. But she knew someone who did — a Sicilian called Benedetto Ceraulo. For a cut of the \$225,000 Reggiani was offering for the killing — he recruited the hit squad: the getaway driver, Orazio Cicale, and a young Sicilian called Benedetto Ceraulo. In his final speech to the court, the prosecutor emphasised the "absurdity" of the motives that drove these two low-life characters to commit this most heinous of crimes: Cicale needed money to pay off gambling debts; Ceraulo wanted a new flat.

But then, what characterised the whole plot from beginning to end was its sheer absurdity: a man died for no other reason than that he had left his wife.

Perhaps because it all seemed so absurd, Maurizio Guccio took no precautions. When he was shot climbing the stairs to his office on March 27, 1995, building's porter who witnessed the murder, said: "I saw Guccio fall to the ground, incredulous — unable to grasp what was happening."

After hearing the news, his ex-wife opened her Carlier diary, turned to that day's date and, switching for some reason into Greek, wrote a single word: "Paradise".

## Cruel Britannia

**O**ver 40,000 children run away from home or care each year.

Most are fleeing abuse, violence or bullying.

On the streets they are in danger of getting caught up with drugs, crime or even prostitution.

They are just part of an alarming statistic which shows that we have the worst record in Western Europe for caring for our children. Our future.

Young runaways miss out on education, lack qualifications and can all too easily end up on a downward spiral to a life with no future.

### "No one believed me"

Josie (12) tried to commit suicide, ran away

From the age of 10, Josie was repeatedly sexually assaulted by her stepfather. She overcame and when the hospital found love-bites on her chest, they called in Social Services who believed the parent's story not Josie's. She was sent back home and the abuse continued. She ran away.

### "Children aren't born bad"

Ian Sparks - Chief Executive, The Children's Society

The Children's Society believe that it's the circumstances in which they find themselves and our ability to deal with these, that are bad.

We're an independent charity who are already tackling the root causes of the problems which can cause this downward spiral.



While our resources are modest, the impact we make on children's lives is not. As a voluntary society of the Church of England and the Church in Wales, we reach out unconditionally to children when they are at their most vulnerable.

### "Something can be done"

We opened the first safe refuge for young runaways like Josie. For children like her, we are someone to turn to, talk to and trust. Our work enables us to understand the causes of the problems children face, so we can develop radical new approaches and influence better solutions, for all children, not just the 40,000 we work with directly every year.

They are just the tip of the iceberg. The reality for many young people in Britain today is that they are living in Cruel Britannia.

Until we, as a nation recognise this, we will never deal with it. The problem isn't someone else's, or the government's, but ours, all of us, and The Children's Society needs your help.

If you would like to know more or make a donation, call our 24 hour donation/information line:

**0345 32 10 28**

[www.the-childrens-society.org.uk](http://www.the-childrens-society.org.uk)

**The Children's Society**

A Voluntary Society of the Church of England and the Church in Wales

Charity Incorporated in 1914

## Plane scare tourists to sue over stress

**T**OURISTS whose plane careers off a runway after a late failure on landing are suing their holiday company over post-traumatic stress in what they claim is the first case of its kind.

More than 20 passengers on the Manchester to Ibiza flight have so far signed up with a lawyer to claim damages from First Choice Holidays. They allege their experience has left them psychologically

scarred, with many suffering from flashbacks, nightmares and difficulty sleeping and concentrating.

But the company says it offered adequate counselling and support for those involved both at the time and after their return to the UK.

Their Airbus jet rolled off the runway and into thick undergrowth, leaving some passengers with minor injuries, on May 21.

Solicitor John Davis, who is

co-ordinating the action, said some passengers were "absolutely panic-stricken" during the landing. They allege cabin crew "abandoned them" immediately afterwards.

When they arrived in the terminal building, it is claimed, they were herded into a small room for several hours with no information or advice and inadequate refreshments.

Counselling offered by the firm was also inadequate to

prepare them for their return flights, it is alleged.

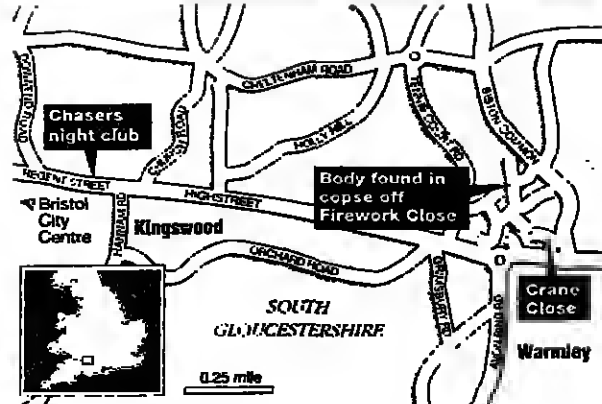
Court action would begin soon, he added.

First Choice Holidays said last night that the plane, on which 139 out of the 180 passengers had booked with the Sussex-based travel firm, overshot the runway as a result of a brake failure. It "worked together with the Centre for Crisis Psychology" to offer counselling in the resort and in the UK.





Police officers at the scene in Warnley, Bristol (left), where a woman's body was found yesterday. Police have been searching for Jennifer King, seen (right) with her friend Clare Clancy on holiday in Cyprus.



## Live bullets mixed with blanks killed soldier, 22

Stuart Miller

A SOLDIER was accidentally shot dead on a nighttime training exercise when live bullets were wrongly mixed with blank ammunition, an inquest in Brecon was told yesterday.

Richard King, aged 22, a Grenadier Guardsman, was hit by a single round from an assault rifle during a four-day operation at Sennybridge, Powys, in February.

The inquest was told how strict army procedures were designed to prevent live and blank ammunition ever coming into contact.

Soldiers issued with live rounds had to hand back any unused bullets after each exercise and make a declaration that they had none left. Rifles were also fitted with a blank firing attachment to stop a live round.

But on the night of the final battle of the training exercise, the safeguards appear to have failed, the inquest heard.

Although only blank ammunition was supposed to have been issued, Lance Corporal James Falkner, the section leader in the attack on the trench manned by Guardsman King, unwittingly fired five live rounds. One round shattered the blank firing attachment and another hit the guardsman on the right side.

"I had no live ammunition on me, we were supplied with blanks," Lance Corporal Falkner told the inquest.

"I was aiming in the direction of the trench and I could make out figures in front of me. I didn't know that the blank firing attachment had come off. It had never happened before."

Lieutenant Colonel John Adams, of the Army Training Accident Investigation Team, said: "I believe that live ammunition was somehow contaminated with the blank ammunition."

tion and then fired." Guardsman King, from the Isle of Sheppey, Kent, died in a military ambulance on the way to hospital. Simon James, a Home Office pathologist, said the cause of death was a high velocity rifle round to the chest, which shattered his spine and fragmented, causing extensive internal injuries.

After the tragedy every unit in the army was reminded of the safety procedures concerning live and blank ammunition, the inquest was told. The blank firing attachment on rifles has since been adapted so the rifle cannot be loaded with a live round when firing blanks.

**'I didn't know that the blank firing attachment had come off'**

Colour Sergeant Ewen Fleming, of the 2nd Parachute Regiment, who was instructing the soldiers, told the inquest he was confident that they had each been given only 90 blank rounds.

The last time live ammunition was used was two days earlier. It appears live ammunition was retained by at least one soldier. There is no way the two sorts of ammunition meet."

Recording a verdict of accidental death, the Fowles coroner, John Hollis, said: "As the relatives of Guardsman King have said, it is remarkable that all the safety procedures were carried out in relation to live and blank ammunition but he still died."

"There are a number of issues to be addressed by the army and new safety devices are already in operation. These things need to be carefully looked at to prevent a similar tragedy."

## Women's body found in copse

Police make discovery near the home of clubgoer who vanished

Geoffrey Gibbs

POLICE investigating the disappearance of the Bristol receptionist Jennifer King last night discovered the body of a young woman in a copse only a few minutes' walk from her home.

Miss King, 22, went missing in the early hours of Saturday morning after spending the evening with friends at Chasers night club in Kingswood on the outskirts of Bristol.

A widespread police hunt and prompted pleas from her family for information about her whereabouts.

The body was discovered yesterday afternoon as police searched a copse in Warnley, only a few hundred yards from the detached four bedroom house that Miss King shared with her parents, brother and sister.

The copse is close to a number of houses and adjoins the playing fields of Kingsfield School, which will be closed today as forensic experts and senior detectives continue to

examine the scene. A police spokesman said: "We have found a body in suspicious circumstances."

A Home Office pathologist, Hugh White, was last night carrying out a preliminary examination of the body at the scene but there was no immediate information about how she had died. The body is not expected to be formally identified until today.

Miss King's parents, who earlier yesterday repeated their plea for people to come forward with information about their daughter, were immediately informed that a body had been found.

Police family liaison officers were last night continuing to provide them with

support. Miss King, a receptionist with a soft drinks firm, was last seen at 2.15 am on Saturday when she left Chasers alone after a night out with friends. She had been given 25 to pay for a taxi by her brother, Andrew, 26, who by chance was also in the club. It is not known whether she was planning to walk or to take a cab for the one-and-a-quarter-mile journey home.

One line of inquiry being followed by police yesterday was a possible connection with an incident in April where a young mother was robbed of her jewellery after getting into a bogus taxi outside the same club.

Miss King's Friday night had started happily, with a drink with her boyfriend, Steve Daley. After giving him a lift home she drove back to her home before being picked up by friends and going on to the nightclub while her boyfriend had an evening out with men friends.

The last time she was seen was when a video surveillance camera captured her leaving the club alone, dressed in a black, short-sleeved top, three-quarter-length leather jacket and black trousers.

Earlier yesterday her parents, Ray, a distribution manager, and Margaret, both 50, made an appeal from their home for public help in the

search for their "caring and homeloving" daughter. In a televised appeal, he suggested that residents in the Warnley, Kingswood and Greater Bristol area should check their outhouses or garages in the hope of finding a trace of his daughter.

They revealed that Miss King had been given a "rocket" after staying out overnight three years ago without informing them. After that she had never failed to tell them where she was going.

They said she doted on her younger sister, Sarah, 11, and was to have taken her to Euro Disney near Paris tomorrow. Her disappearance was "totally out of character."

## Dealer says he was not told of arms ban

Richard Norton-Taylor

TWO key figures at the heart of the arms to Africa affair insisted yesterday that the Foreign Office knew about a plan by a private British security company to supply weapons to Sierra Leone, and said that they were never warned it was in breach of a British or United Nations embargo.

Peter Penfold, Britain's high commissioner to Sierra Leone, and Tim Spicer, the director of Sandline International, challenged Whitehall's version of the controversy surrounding the counter-coup that restored President Kabbah to power.

In his first public comment on the affair, Mr Penfold — singled out for blame by Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary — told the Commons foreign affairs committee that the FO never told him about a British executive order imposing an arms ban on all sides in the Sierra Leone conflict.

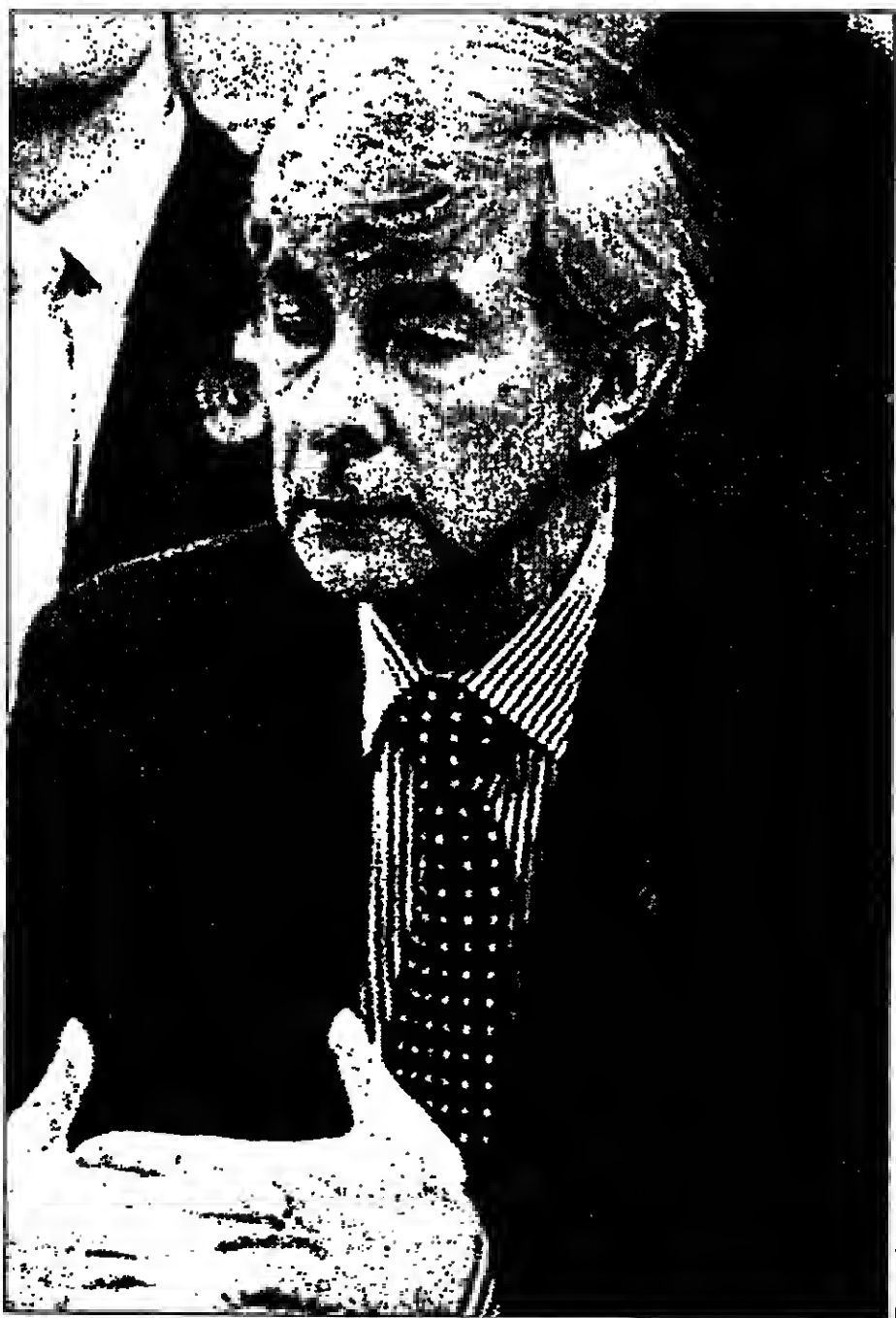
He had always been led to believe that the UN embargo applied only to the junta which seized power last year.

"The first I saw was a press line of the Foreign Office on the UN resolution which made it clear the sanctions were against the junta," he said. Other FO documents referred only to the junta. He had never received FO legal or policy advice suggesting anything else.

"I had no doubt at all that everything I did was being done properly, in full compliance with the requirements and in fulfilment of British government policy."

He said he had always assumed the Sandline deal, worth \$6.2 million, included the supply of arms, given the amount of money involved. He had assumed FO officials would have come to a similar conclusion.

He never received any warning that Sandline's activities were against sanctions. "So I continued firmly to believe that what was being contemplated was not against sanctions," Mr Penfold said.



Peter Penfold, the high commissioner, giving evidence in the House of Commons yesterday

He added that he never led Sandline to understand they were being given authority through him for what they were doing.

Mr Spicer said Craig Murray, deputy head of the FO's west Africa branch, was "absolutely aware" of the plan to supply arms to help restore Mr Kabbah to power. They even expressed concern about questions being raised in the Commons.

In a claim which, if proved, will be also highly damaging to the FO, Mr Spicer described a meeting with officials about how to obtain night-vision goggles in a way that would short-circuit British export controls.

The idea was to claim the equipment was for a mining company.

The Sandline director also

said he supplied Whitehall with military intelligence. It is known that defence intelligence staff were aware of the company's activities. The foreign intelligence service, MI6, has strongly denied any knowledge of them.

Mr Spicer said he was convinced the plan to supply arms was "absolutely right and absolutely legal."

He added: "I am clear that the Foreign Office officials understood very clearly that the procurement of arms and ammunition were involved in this operation. At no stage was I discouraged from it by anybody."

During two hours of testimony, Mr Spicer persistently refused to describe Sandline's ownership or financial details. The company is registered in the Bahamas.

Mr Penfold developed a close relationship with Mr Kabbah when they were in exile in Conakry, capital of neighbouring Guinea. There, and then later in London, he met Sandline executives, including Lt Col Spicer. Despite official denials, both men insist they kept the FO informed about the company's deal with Mr Kabbah.

Mr Cook told MPs earlier this year that ministers were never told about the deal. A Customs and Excise investigation concluded that it would be unfair to prosecute Sandline.

An internal inquiry by Sir Thomas Legg, former permanent secretary at the Lord Chancellor's department, concluded that "official misjudgment and systemic cultural failures" were to blame.

## Blacklist plan to combat surge in 'air rage morons'

Keith Harper  
Transport Editor

A NATIONWIDE blacklist to combat disruptive and violent behaviour by air travellers was approved yesterday by the industry, following the recent attack on stewardess Fiona Weir.

The move came as the man accused of attacking her, Stephen Handy, was banned from travelling on all UK airlines, and the cross-Channel ferry company Hoverspeed. Handy has been bailed by a Spanish court over the incident on a flight between Gatwick and Malaga.

Airtours, the company which employs Ms Weir, said it had advised rail companies of its decision, and was awaiting a response. A rail ban would be far more difficult to enforce.

The decision to draw up an "air rage" blacklist was taken by a conference of the UK Flight Safety Committee at Heathrow. Committee chairman Steve Kerr, an Airtours pilot, said there had been a fourfold increase in incidents in the past few years.

He said the laws which we have to deal with are limited because they were written to deal with terrorism and hijacking, not the moron who decides to smash a bottle over an unsuspecting lady's head.

A spot check by the committee found that 10 UK airlines experienced 186 incidents during one month last year, ranging from passengers too drunk to board and



Fiona Weir: Air and ferry ban on her alleged attacker

smoking in prohibited areas, to aggravation and assault.

How the blacklist will work is not yet clear, but as many airlines operate within a wide variety of jurisdictions co-ordinating it internationally presents huge problems. The International Air Transport Association, representing more than 250 of the world's leading airlines, confirmed that it too was drawing up an international register of "violent and unruly passengers", but had no timescale for its introduction.

Dave Parsons, flight operations director of Airtours, said Mr Handy had purchased a ticket for £39 to go to Malaga, and that the cheapness of air travel had opened it up to people with no previous ac-

### High jinx

February '98: Former Stone Roses frontman Ian Brown threatens to chop off an air stewardess's hands and abuses the captain on a BA flight from Paris. (Sentenced last month to four months' jail.)

June '98: A drunk passenger, Elizabeth Elliot, from London, headbutts and bites BA crew during a flight from New York, forcing an emergency landing at Heathrow. (Jailed for 15 months in September.)

July '98: A holiday jet from Manchester to Dalaman in Turkey is forced to land in Romania when a

drunk couple cause havoc and upset the 235 passengers and 10 crew. They are arrested by Romanian police and flown back to London. (The airline is considering taking action.)

October '98: Stephen Handy, aged 37, is alleged to have attacked a stewardess with a broken vodka bottle. The victim, Fiona Weir, aged 31, needs 18 stitches after being struck over the head during a flight from Gatwick to Malaga. Handy is alleged to have caused constant trouble during the flight. He is released on bail and is due to report to a Malaga court.

and the process from check-in to boarding.

BA is carrying out a study into the causes of stress leading to disruptive behaviour, Mr Jack said. He called for an international initiative to extend national jurisdiction to crimes committed on board inbound foreign registered aircraft, and for penalties to be increased to give police extra powers of arrest.

Bob Ayling, BA's chief executive, agreed that many attacks on aircraft were alcohol related, and that staff had instructions not to serve alcohol to passengers who were suspected of having drunk too much. But in some cases passengers came on board having already consumed too much.

## Girl born in prison last night to be taken from her mother

Alan Travis  
Home Affairs Editor

A HOLLOWAY prisoner who last night gave birth to a girl faces having the baby taken away from her after a High Court ruling yesterday.

Mr Justice Laws confirmed a Prison Service decision that the former psychology student, aged 24, be banned from Holloway's mother and baby unit. At the time he gave his ruling he was told the baby was "literally on its way" to being born, but the judge said Michael Sheldrick, Holloway's governor, had not acted unrea-

sonably or perversely when he confirmed the decision of an admissions board to deny the mother a place in the unit.

The baby will be placed with social services and will probably be cared for by foster parents. Lawyers for the woman, who has not been named for legal reasons, told the judge she had been denied a fair opportunity to deny allegations that she had been involved in violent incidents with another inmate, fighting and bullying, and was unfit to be allowed into the unit.

Last night Frances Crook, director of the Howard League for Penal Reform, condemned

the practice of separating babies from mothers considered unsuitable for the unit.

She said the woman, who had said she wanted to breast feed the child, would be distraught when told the legal challenge had failed and her baby, which has a chromosomal abnormality, was taken away. "I am disappointed because the substantial issues about the welfare of the child and the wellbeing of the mother were simply not dealt with in court," Ms Crook said.

"Surely it is possible for the prison authorities to make some arrangement, taking into account public safety, where

mother and baby can remain secure and together. If you separate a baby from mother, we all know this can create long-term damage. Even you will have one damaged baby. Everybody loses."

The woman is serving five years for wounding with intent. She is said to have been insolent to prison officers. There were also complaints of rudeness, bullying and not getting up in the mornings.

Mr Justice Laws also refused the woman permission to take her challenge to the Court of Appeal, although her lawyers were last night trying an independent approach.

سكرا من الارامل





Sensational... despite ideas that trains damaged the spine, the 19th century was not short of intrepid citizens for the delights of travel at 50 mph

ILLUSTRATION: MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY

## Steam age stress jolted Victorians

**Martin Wainwright reports on a forerunner of modern ailments**

**T**HE supposedly modern nature of stress-related medical conditions is about to be debunked by an academic study of railway spine, a nervous condition that swept Victorian Britain.

Proposed by leading doctors, and even, originally, Sigmund Freud, who relied on the "erotic jolting and exquisite sexual symbolism" of train travel, the illness led to some large compensation claims and, reportedly, turned thousands of

people into invalids. "It was symptomatic of a society and culture suddenly speeding up, as ours is today," said Ralph Harrington, who has just finished a study of the condition at York University's Institute of Railway Studies. "The railways marked a leap in speed, which, like never before, had been paralleled. Here were people who had mostly experienced nothing faster than running, being carried at 50 mph and, by 1854, over 80 mph." Disbelief that such an ex-

perience could possibly be good for you — a worry that began in the 1840s — was encouraged by official caution, including a written instruction from Queen Victoria's staff to railway companies that "Her Majesty travels at a speed of 20 mph". A visiting Shah of Persia insisted on an even lower speed all the way from Portsmouth to Waterloo because his doctors feared that he would otherwise succumb.

"It seems clear that most sufferers were really affected by nervous anxiety," said Mr Harrington, "but then as now, there was a determination to find an organic, physical cause, rather than allowing the condition to be described as just 'all in the mind'. Doctors concentrated on the spine and the effect of jolting travel and speed on the delicate nerves in the spinal column."

The movement was blamed for a string of symptoms described in compensation cases, many involving a leading London surgeon, John Ericsson, as expert witness. He attributed migraines, back pain, stiffness, personality disorders, sleeplessness and partial paralysis to "chronic and sub-acute inflammation action in the spinal membrane" caused by travel by rail.

The theory was enhanced by the "erotic rail" arguments of Freud and several forerunners, who ascribed boys' frequent wish to be engine drivers to the fascination of having the body and libido shaken by bumpy trains. Although Freud referred to the "pleasurable character of the sensations of movement", he acknowledged that the jolting might also have a damaging physical effect.

Mr Harrington reveals the retaliation of the railway companies, with company surgeons like Herbert Page insisting that railway spine was a nervous condition. Recognising its genuine symptoms, he denied physical damage and instead attributed the problem to "profound exhaustion of the nervous system, or transference of the nervous system."

The success of train travel, in spite of railway spine, might reflect the fact that victims were a minority. There was certainly much enthusiasm for high speed. Sydney Smith, the Anglican essayist, was overjoyed to overtake an eagle, and the poet Edna St Vincent Millay wrote: "My heart is warm with the friends I make And better friends I'll not be knowing There isn't a train I wouldn't take No matter where it's going."



**'A magical enchantment. I bless the South Eastern Railway Company for realising the Arabian Nights in the prose days'**  
Charles Dickens (left) after an 11-hour London-Paris rail journey, 1851



**'I was dreadfully frightened before the train started; in the nervous state I was in, it seemed to me certain that I should faint, from the impossibility of getting the horrid thing stopt'**  
Thomas Carlyle (left) after a 75-minute Manchester-Liverpool run, 1842

## Surgeons told operations are not always in patients' interest

**Sarah Beechey**  
Health Correspondent

**S**OME of the 20,000 hospital patients who died last year during or shortly after surgery should never have gone under the knife, according to a report published yesterday.

Surgeons should remember that it was sometimes in the best interests of their patients not to operate, said the National Confidential Enquiry into Perioperative Deaths, set up by government nine years ago to investigate on an annual basis.

Within the 2,500 deaths that NCEPD selected to examine, in confidence, in the year 1996/97, there were cases in which "the care given was not always in the best interests of the patient and a more holistic approach should have been given," said Ron Helle, the principal co-ordinator in surgery.

But he emphasised that surgeons had difficult decisions to make where a patient was frail or their condition was severe — probably because of cancer — and yet they and their relatives wanted surgery. "There are expectations that we can work miracles," he said.

There were some cases in which anaesthetists felt under pressure from the surgeon even though they had doubts about the patient's fitness. "By nature most surgeons are optimistic," said Stuart Ingram, NCEPD's principal co-ordinator in anaesthesia.

Their expectations for the patient can be to a degree unrealistic. It often seems to us as anaesthetists that the decision to operate is the easier one to take. You can be criticised for doing something, but not for having done nothing."

But it was a "very, very difficult problem" and a greater degree of realism was needed in deciding what could be achieved for a patient.

About a third of those who died were over 80, although it was not age but degree of fitness that counted in suitability for an operation.

There were concerns expressed by surgeons that some patients, particularly with severe coronary heart disease, were being admitted to hospital on the day their operation was to take place, because a bed could not be made available for them during the previous night.



**Since schmoozing is the key to corporate success, who you take on the schmoozing circuit with you can only help. There are still Stepford Wives, women programmed to support their husbands and the company.**  
Anne Perkins on the end of the Tory wife

**G2 page 4**

## Get the power of digital communications through your existing phone line.

There's a new digital highway, that will bring the power of digital communications to your home or office. It will allow you to fax or phone and use the Internet at the same time, and download faster than the fastest modem. Which means you'll spend less time waiting. And it does all this simply through your existing phone line.

To get on the **BT Highway** Freefone 0800 800 845  
[www.highway.bt.com](http://www.highway.bt.com)



# Saudi king rebuffs US as Iraq crisis heightens

Ian Black  
Diplomatic Editor

**S**AUDI ARABIA will not serve as a springboard for attacks on Iraq, the United States was told last night as it sought backing in the latest confrontation over United Nations weapons inspections.

King Fahd told William Cohen, the US defence secretary, that his country could not directly support military action, highlighting the complexities of handling what is shaping up to be a rerun of a similar but inconclusive crisis earlier this year.

As a defiant Saddam Hussein again insisted he would not resume cooperation with the UN unless sanctions were lifted, Britain and the US signalled that diplomatic options would be explored before military ones.

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, told the Commons: "We want to find a diplomatic solution but we have always made clear that all options remain open." And he reminded Parliament that Britain had 12 Tornado warplanes based in the Gulf, and was ready to use them.

The US aircraft carrier

**'Saddam appears to be gambling that the world will grow weary of his constant evasion'**

Elzenbawer and several warships capable of firing long-range Tomahawk cruise missiles are in the area.

"Saddam Hussein appears to be gambling that the world will grow weary of his constant evasion and his repeated confrontation," Mr Cook told MPs. "His calculation is that we will eventually give up and abandon the sanctions regime without requiring him to abandon his ambitions for regional supremacy through weapons of terror. We must remain ready and resolute to prove him wrong."

Earlier, George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, said after talks with Mr Cohen, on route to the Saudi capital Riyadh, that "full compliance with the UN is the only way open to Iraq to achieve the lifting of sanctions".

Baghdad announced on Saturday that it was suspending all co-operation with the United Nations Special Commission, Unsmoc, whose inspectors must certify that Iraq's chemical, biological and nuclear weapons and the missiles to deliver them have been scrapped before sanctions can be lifted.

Yet for all the tough talk,

diplomats at the UN said last night they were working on a new Security Council resolution that would not explicitly threaten force — apparently because of opposition from Russia, France and China.

All three countries have expressed alarm at the latest move by President Saddam but want swift moves to end sanctions. They are just as unlikely to back UN-authorised military action as they were in February.

France said yesterday it was recalling its representative in Baghdad for consultations and warned Iraq that ending co-operation with Unsmoc would lead to total isolation. Russia reiterated its opposition to the use of force.

"It's here we go again," said one European official. "But the Iraqis may have shot themselves in the foot. The French and the Russians went out on a limb to get a favourable reference to lifting sanctions. So all this may have helped unify the council. But for what? Not for military action. There's not a hope in hell for action authorised by the council."

Making exactly such a calculation, Iraq remained obdurate. "We will not back down on the decision whatever the sacrifices would be," the official al-Iraq newspaper said in a front-page editorial as hundreds of people marched through Baghdad carrying coffins of children they said had died due to the sanctions.

Diplomats at the UN said a new resolution might be adopted tomorrow.

Underlining the seriousness of the crisis, the Unsmoc chief, Richard Butler, said he could no longer provide any assurances about whether Iraq was engaging in clandestine rearmament.

He said he was keeping more than 100 inspectors and support staff in Iraq in a decision aides described as intended to avoid escalation. But he warned he would have to reconsider if "Iraq does not rescind its decisions in the near future".

February's crisis was renewed at the eleventh hour by the UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, but Unsmoc feels its work has been weakened, and officials say they fear more pressure to abandon their disarmament quest.

Mr Cohen, after seeing Saudi leaders last night, today goes to Kuwait, Iraq's victim in 1990 and now the only Arab country to actively back the military option.

In Washington, a defence department spokesman said that the warships and aircraft now in the Gulf were sufficient for any military action against Iraq. No movement of extra troops, ships or weapons was under way. The US has 20,000 men in the region and can double their numbers within 96 hours.



Residents evacuate the town of Las Mesitas in El Salvador. Regional governments are relying on helicopters to rescue the thousands still stranded by floods. PHOTOGRAPH: PAUL GAWDA

## Central America counts cost as floods recede

Phil Gunson, Latin America Correspondent

**A**S FLOOD waters begin to recede, the people of Central America are counting the cost of the devastation wrought by Hurricane Mitch, which may have killed between 7,000 and 10,000 people and left more than 3 million homeless — some 10 per cent of the region's population.

Hundreds of bodies remain buried in mud or floating in swollen rivers. A week after the storm hit Honduras, many people in isolated areas are still clinging to trees and rooftops.

Saying his country was "wounded though not dying", the Honduran President, Carlos Flores, suspended constitutional guar-

tees for a fortnight and declared a dusk-to-dawn curfew to put a stop to the looting that has hit the country's two main cities, Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula. Those violating the curfew will be placed in internment camps.

With food, water and petrol in short supply, restrictions were placed on the sale of fuel. Hardly a town or a village in the country was not hit by floods and landslides, the president said, and some had "disappeared completely".

Along with the governments of neighbouring Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala, Honduras is begging for international assistance, and aid is beginning to arrive by air and sea.

The United States has committed \$5 million (\$2 million) and is setting up an emergency co-ordination cen-

tre in Costa Rica. It has also sent helicopters, as has Mexico. Other countries providing aid include Switzerland, Taiwan, Spain and Japan. In Britain, the organisation Jubilee 2000 has called for the countries' foreign debts to be cancelled. Floods, Jubilee says, spends 80 per cent of its revenue on debt repayment.

"Aloe, we cannot reconstruct the country," said Dimas Alonso, director of the Honduran disasters and emergencies organisation, Copeco.

The sentiment was echoed by Nicaragua's defence minister, Pedro Joaquín Chamorro. "We have recovered from war, we have recovered from the [1972] earthquake, we will recover again," Mr Chamorro said. "But we will need international support to recover as quickly as possible."

But the rightwing govern-

ment of Arnoldo Aleman in Nicaragua, which has come in for severe criticism for its handling of the disaster, refused an offer of doctors from Cuba. Vice-President Enrique Bolanos said: "If we fill our hotels with doctors who will be pressing for helicopters to get to the scene, it will only cause more chaos."

The former president, Daniel Ortega, of the Sandinistas described the decision as extraordinary, saying "nothing like this happened even in the time of the Somoza dictatorship".

With 150 bridges destroyed and many parts of the country cut off by road, the government is being forced to spend scarce hard currency on fuel for its fleet of ageing Soviet-built helicopters to deliver aid and evacuate the injured and homeless.

A region dependent on agri-

culture for its export earnings has seen this year's crops virtually wiped out. In Nicaragua, estimates put crop losses at \$43 million, with 80 per cent of the harvest destroyed.

In Honduras, losses in the banana plantations alone may top \$850 million. Eighty per cent of the country's road network is reported to have been affected, and at least 100 bridges are damaged.

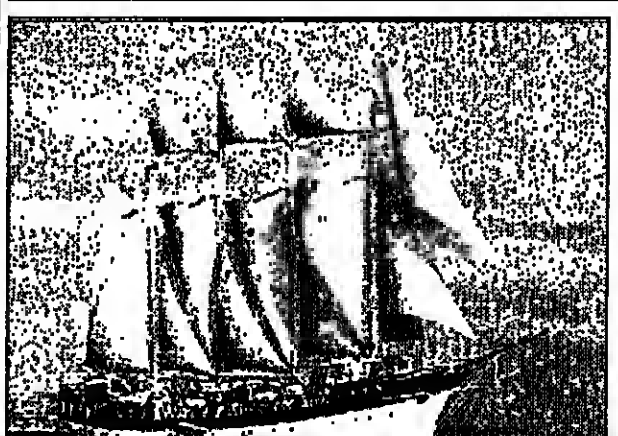
With some cases of cholera already reported, fear of epidemics is growing. At the scene of the worst single tragedy, the volcano mudslide in the north-west Nicaraguan province of Chinandega, rescue workers have begun the grim task of incinerating the hundreds of bodies scattered across 30 square miles of mud, to prevent the spread of disease.

Also near Nicaragua's bor-

der with Honduras, the mayor of the town of Yalaquina said 4,000 people were completely without food or drinking water. It was a scene repeated across the region: supplies cannot get through because of the damage to roads and bridges, and drinking water has been contaminated with mud or sewage.

Although the official death toll across the region remained at around 2,000 yesterday, it was widely acknowledged that this figure was a serious underestimate. In addition to the hundreds of bodies buried under the volcanic mud in Chinandega, some 3,000 people were still missing.

"Anything I could say to describe this would be inadequate," said one inhabitant of Tegucigalpa. "We have never seen anything like it."



## Holiday schooner hit by hurricane is feared lost

**R**AFTS and life-jackets from the SV Fantome, the world's largest four-masted schooner which went missing with 31 crew as Hurricane Mitch tore across the Caribbean, have been recovered by the US Coast Guard, writes Owen Bowcott.

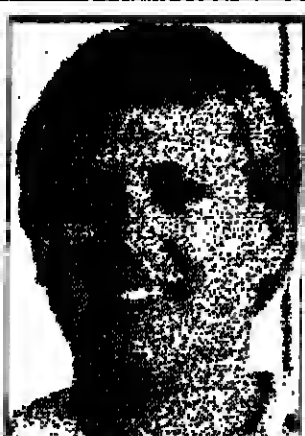
The 282ft holiday vessel (left) had put ashore all 100 passengers before the crew sailed toward Honduras' Roatan Islands in an effort to avoid the storm and its 150mph winds.

The last radio message from the Fantome — flag-ship of Windjammer Barefoot Cruises — said it was rolling through 40 degrees. It was under the command of Cornish-born Captain Guyan March (right). Almost all of his crew are from the Caribbean or Central America.

The serial number on one of the two rafts pulled from the sea confirmed that it belonged to the Fantome. "We have found all sorts of stuff," said Scott Carr, a

coast guard spokesman. It's starting to look as if the ship went down. This doesn't dismiss the possibility that survivors could be out in the open sea on a life raft.

Capt March was described as an experienced British sailor. "He has been sailing since he was a kid. He is a fantastic sailor," said Laura Marshall, an Atlanta resident who often travelled on Windjammer Cruises. "He knew what he was doing."



## The Guardian Travel Shop Boston City Break

Four days departing from Gatwick 16 January 1999

From only £299



The exciting bargain shopping opportunities combined with the rich heritage and quaint charm of this fantastic American city ensures that you will have the time of your life on this great value 4 day weekend break to Boston, Massachusetts. Birthplace of the American Revolution, Boston is steeped in history and with its historic links to Britain, there is much to see. The historic Freedom Trail, the golden-domed State House overlooking beautiful Boston Common, the Victorian houses of cobbleston Beacon Street, and the Tea Party ship, a permanent reminder of the beginnings of America's struggle for independence are all places well worth a visit.

The price includes: Return transatlantic scheduled flights from London Gatwick to Boston • airport to hotel transfers • two nights accommodation in the centrally located Thorne House Hotel • full day visit to the Worcester Common shopping mall • Government services and taxes

For full details of this offer, including a brochure and booking form, please complete and return the coupon, or call Newmarket Air Holidays today quoting GUA.

Holidays are organised by Newmarket Air Holidays and are offered subject to availability. ASTA V7812 AFOL 2325

Please quote GUA. Tel: 0870 73 73 713

To: Newmarket Air Holidays Ltd., Millbank House, Chess Common Road, Worcester Park, Surrey KT4 8RQ

Please send me full details of the following Guardian Travel Offer:

☐ Boston City Break

How many times a week do you buy The Guardian? How many times a month do you buy The Guardian?

Please tick this box if you do NOT wish to receive details of other offers from The Guardian or other companies approved by The Guardian

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

The Guardian

## US 'propaganda' radio broadcasts infuriate Iran

Radio Free Europe's eastern expansion is raising hackles in Tehran, reports **Genevieve Abdo**

**T**HE voice on the short wave radio recalls the cold war, when transmitters of East and West assaulted the world with competing visions of an idyllic future. Only this time the target is not a rival superpower, but a country already reaching out for a tentative rapprochement.

"Welcome to the Farsi Service of Radio Free Europe," says the new reader, kicking off a one-hour programme from a former parliament building in Prague, broadcasting into the airwaves of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

So begins the latest United States attempt to mould the behaviour of a country and a value system it rejects as incompatible

with its own. Launched at the weekend and fully funded by the US Congress, the service offers the official American spin on everything from President Mohammed Khatami's reform campaigns to human rights issues in Iran and the latest Palestinian-Israeli peace deal.

In this age of Mr Khatami's "dialogue between civilisations" — a radical departure from a once-aggressive foreign policy — Iranians are wondering what has hit them. "The programme tries to project a neutral stand. But I don't believe it. It's organised by the CIA," says Roudzbeh Bolhari, a Tehran journalist.

Government officials say they view it as a interfere-

ence in the Islamic Republic's internal affairs. Tehran has recalled its ambassador from Prague in protest at the Czech government's decision to allow Radio Free Europe to be stationed there, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported yesterday.

On Saturday the envoy, Seyyed Jafar Hashemi, said the programme was an "act of aggression" against Iran. "The Farsi Service, a throwback to four decades of clandestine US broadcasts into Eastern Europe to undermine communism, touches upon the most sensitive subjects and personalities."

Sunday night's news bulletin carried a summary of a speech by one of Iran's leading dissident intellectuals, Abdol Karim Soroush, who criticised restrictions on freedom of expression while at a conference in London.

In another interview, a

human rights activist in the West criticised the imprisonment of a mid-ranking Iranian cleric, Mohsen Saeed Zadeh, was jailed after he remarked that Iran had failed to promote women's rights, a slap to an ambitious state campaign which claims the 1979 is-

lamic Revolution liberated women.

As the first broadcasts went out, Iranians were tuning to a different page in their relations with the US. This week marks the 19th anniversary of the takeover of the American

embassy in Tehran, an event that has usually been celebrated with street rallies, the burning of the US flag, and chants of "Death to America".

But on Monday about 2,500 students belonging to the same organisation that seized the embassy in 1979, the Unity Consolidation Office, offered conciliatory words to the country they once referred to as "the Great Satan".

Marching from Tehran University to the former mission, they refrained from burning the US flag for the first time in 19 years — a gesture of support, they said, for Mr Khatami's overtures to the American people.

"Not only do we not harbour any ill wishes for the American people, but in fact we consider them to be a great nation," read one banner.

Another placard went a step further, offering an

apology for the embassy takeover. "In the heat of revolutionary fervour, things happen which can not be fully contained," it said.

While Iran's younger generation looks to the future, conservatives in the US Congress appear to be retreating to the past. It is the rightwing politicians behind US trade sanctions against Iran who are sponsoring the Farsi Service.

But since the broadcasts began, the programme's director has made repeated attempts to convince the audience it is not aimed at spreading anti-Iranian propaganda.

"We are journalists and we do not work for the United States government," the director said in an interview broadcast on Sunday. "We are unbiased and do not support any faction. It's not our job to interfere in the internal affairs in Iran."

## Turkish comedian in hunger strike against state censors

Chris Morris in Ankara

**O**NE of Turkey's top comedians went on a hunger strike yesterday, vowing to die unless censorship laws are changed.

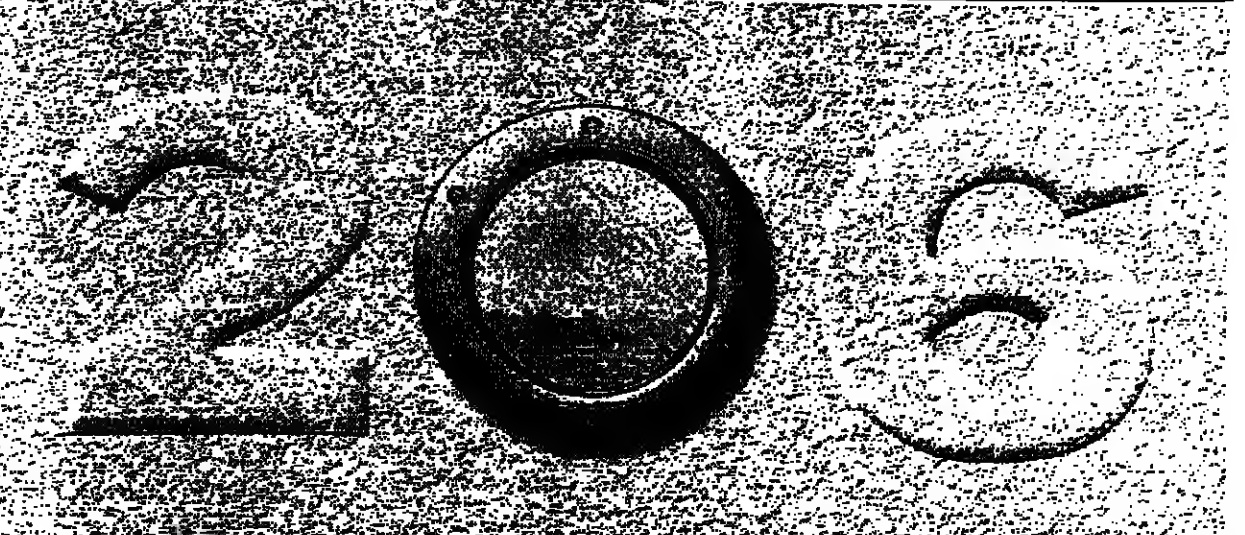
Levent Kirca is protesting against the state broadcasting commission's decision to shut down Channel D television for 24 hours because he made fun of a government minister who recently admitted that she is still a virgin.

Mr Kirca is staging his strike at his theatre in Istanbul. He says that he will go on performing, even though he

will drink only one glass of sugary water every day.

Fellow comedians have cancelled their television shows in support, and on Monday Mr Kirca said yesterday: "The Turkish people are with me. As I'm not a politician, they actually believe what I am saying."

This may not be the best issue on which to rally widespread support against censorship. Women's groups have condemned Mr Kirca for ridiculing women's affairs minister, Islay Saygin who says she is still a virgin and proud of it.



سكنا من الارامل



## Sex claims in Anwar trial fuel gay fears

John Gittings  
in Kuala Lumpur

**F**URTHER allegations against Malaysia's former deputy prime minister, Anwar Ibrahim, emerged at his trial yesterday when the prosecution claimed that he had been under police investigation for sexual misconduct six years ago.

The claim has heightened fears among the country's gays and sex education campaigners that the case against Mr Anwar, who is accused of corruption and sodomy, may hinder their cause.

According to Mohd Said Awang, director of the police special branch and the prosecution's first witness, Mr Anwar was the subject of a covert operation, codenamed Solid Grip, into "sexual misbehaviour" as far back as 1992. The investigation was

this section of the code being invoked against consenting adults.

In theory the section applies to oral and anal sex, whether between partners of the same or opposite gender. But its use has been chiefly confined to sex crimes against minors.

The question now is whether, after the central role played by sex in this high-profile case, textbook offences inherited from colonial law can be decriminalised.

"We have to be very, very careful," a campaigner for sex awareness said. "Everything has become political."

No one wishes to talk on the record, and even organisations named in the telephone book ask not to be mentioned.

Those campaigning on a wide range of sex-related issues, from Aids education to the rehabilitation of sex workers, have always kept a low profile. Islam condemns homosexuality and is generally hostile to contraception.

But a range of non-government bodies has done much quiet and effective work, from providing sex workers with condoms to counselling gays, showing that Islamic doctrine is less rigid on these matters than is often assumed.

The Malaysian Aids Council, whose president, ironically, is Marina Mahathir, the daughter of the prime minister, Mahathir Mohamad — produces explicit sex education material for young women. This accepts the reality of sex outside marriage and of same-sex relationships, and refers to sexual practices labelled as "unnatural" in the penal code.

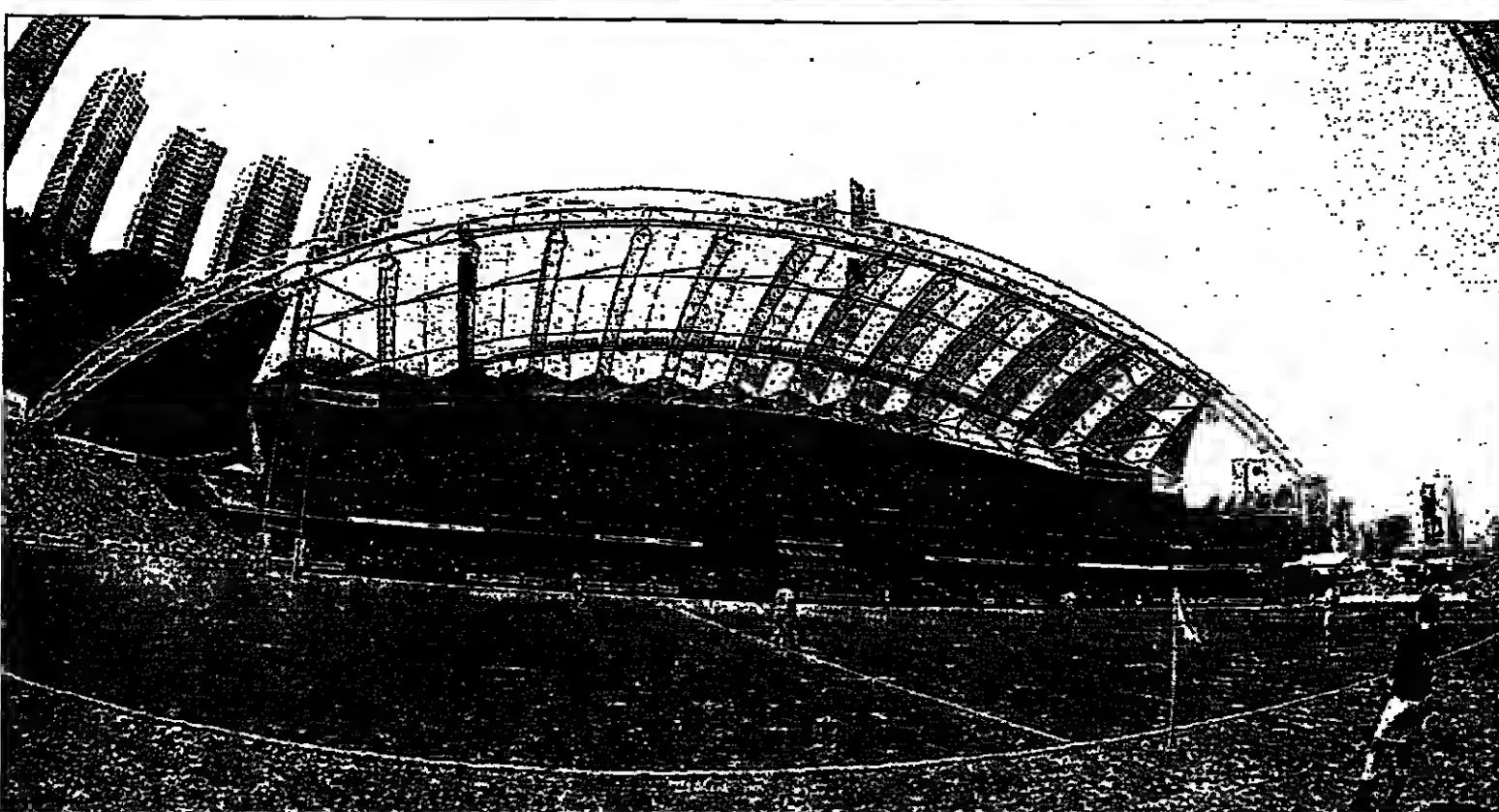
Not surprisingly Ms Mahathir, who has written extensively on Aids and sexual tolerance, is not expected to issue any more statements in the near future.

"Our concern is basically the cascading effect of the sex allegations. We don't really know where it may lead," one voluntary worker in this field said.

The real test may come next year when Malaysia hosts the Fifth International Congress on Aids in Asia and the Pacific.

But the impression abroad that sexual diversity in this predominantly Muslim country is harshly dealt with is misleading. In recent years there have been five cases of

## Match-fixing scandal



## Bribes case grips football-mad Hong Kong

Danny Gittings  
in Hong Kong

**F**IVE football stars yesterday appeared in court to face charges of fixing a World Cup qualifier and other matches in a suspected international bookmaking racket that may have seen some bets handled by a British syndicate.

Fans in football-crazy Hong Kong, who are more accustomed to following English Premiership matches, have been transfixed by the allegations of foul play at home.

Four of the accused are charged with conspiring with a former Liverpool youth

team player, Alan Chan Tsz-kong, to take HK\$200,000 (£17,000) from a local bookmaker to throw a match against Thailand in March last year. Hong Kong lost the game 2-0 and failed to qualify for the World Cup.

Chan, aged 26, played as a striker in the match. He was jailed for a year in July after admitting his part in the conspiracy and is being held in a luxury suite. In return, he is expected to give evidence against the four: goalkeeper Kevin Lok Kar-win and midfielder Lee Wai-man, both 25, defender Philip Chan Chi-keung, aged 28, and striker Wai Kwan-lung, aged 22.

Together with a fifth

accused, winger Lan Chi-yuen, aged 29, they also face charges of fixing domestic matches dating back to 1996. All denied the total of 17 charges against them yesterday. But they were barred from leaving Hong Kong and ordered not to interfere with prosecution witnesses.

A magistrate, Garry Tallentire, described the charges as "extremely serious" and said it was incredible the prosecution had not demanded tougher bail conditions. The trial is not expected to begin until next year.

The players were arrested in June with 30 other suspects, including a police sergeant and computer expert,

when anti-triad officers uncovered a huge illegal book-making syndicate, believed to have handled bets totalling more than HK\$90 million. Fourteen further arrests were made in a simultaneous sting operation against two gambling dens in Singapore. Investigators believe syndicates elsewhere in Asia are also involved, and that some bets may have been passed on to illegal operators in Britain and Gibraltar via computer.

Most forms of gambling are illegal in Hong Kong, where many Britons still play for local teams, despite last year's reversion to Chinese sovereignty, and much of the population stayed up to watch

the World Cup on television.

While bribery has long been suspected, the image of the game has been tarnished by the recent revelations. "You sold yourself, you sold your sport and you sold your future for a few thousand dollars," a magistrate, John Brennan, said in July while sentencing Alan Chan, who was the first local player to admit match-fixing in court.

"When I was much younger, the highest accolade of a footballer was to represent his country. Nowadays, in this atmosphere of rampant professionalism, the first question asked by a football player is, 'How much am I going to be paid?'"



The national football stadium in Hong Kong and, from top, three of the five players charged with match-fixing yesterday: Philip Chan Chi-keung, Wai Kwan-lung and Kevin Lok Kar-win

MAIN PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID ROGERS

'Our concern is the cascading effect of these allegations. We don't know where it may lead'

before the period to which the current charges refer.

Mr Anwar's defence counsel objected strongly that the allegations would prejudice the case and amounted to a "smear". But the judge, Augustine Paul, accepted the prosecution's argument that the existence of the operation was relevant, although he ruled that it would not be examined further.

The word "sodomy" has become part of the media's vocabulary. Readers of the pro-government press are reminded of one possible occasion that Mr Anwar is accused of five such offences under section 377B of the penal code. (All but one of the five corruption charges, which are being tried first, relate to these allegations.)

But the impression abroad that sexual diversity in this predominantly Muslim country is harshly dealt with is misleading. In recent years there have been five cases of

## Suharto orchestrated riots, official inquiry says

John Agilony in Jakarta

**I**NDONESIA'S former president Suharto and elements within the country's armed forces helped orchestrate the riots that rocked Jakarta and other cities in May, an official fact-finding team announced yesterday.

They said the aim was to create an emergency that would allow the ailing dictator to tighten his grip on power. The 28-page report

also contradicted army and police claims that no women were raped during the unrest between May 13-15. It said that at least 66 women were raped, many in public.

Marzuki Darusman, the head of the investigating team which took three months to complete the report into the worst unrest since the 1960s, said: "The whole process preceding the riots had a very clear political dimension — including efforts to secure extraordinary pow-

ers based on a decree giving the president [Suharto] extraordinary powers to overcome any temporary emergency situation."

Mr Suharto was in Egypt during the riots, but yesterday's report supports widespread speculation that he ordered the disturbances so he could return and re-establish his iron grip on power. By May this had been weakened by nine months of massive economic collapse and mounting popular protests against

his authoritarian regime. Mr Suharto was overtaken by events, particularly the snowballing protests, and was forced to resign five days after he returned.

Within six weeks, independent organisations were reporting some of the horrors. The most prominent, the Voluntary Human Rights Watch, said 1,190 people died and 168 women, mostly of ethnic Chinese descent, were raped.

Mr Suharto's successor, B.J. Habibie, ordered a for-

mal investigation. The team he set up under Mr Darusman, deputy chairman of Indonesia's human rights commission, included government officials, members of the armed forces and representatives of non-governmental organisations.

All five cabinet ministers responsible for the fact-finding team were conspicuously absent from yesterday's announcement at the department of justice. Highly visible, however, were several

lorry-loads of heavily armed soldiers.

The team said it had evidence that 52 women were raped, 14 of them accompanied by violence, and 10 others suffered sexual assaults.

Mr Darusman said: "The team found the majority of the rapes were gang rapes, where the victims were raped by a number of people at the same time and in the same place." He added that most were committed in front of numerous onlookers.

## Big Apple sets the pace as Americans race to the polls

Michael Ellison in New York

**T**HE New York race for the Senate between the incumbent, Al D'Amato, and the Democratic contender, Charles Schumer, has been described as one of the ugliest and dirtiest in the United States. It is also one of the tightest and most expensive. "It's worthy of New York," a political analyst said.

Warren Kalbacker was going about his civic duty yesterday, as he always does at election time, at the Associated Blind building near the bohemian landmark, the Chelsea Hotel.

"I'm not sure that any election is exciting, but in my family it's a religion to vote, whether we're interested or not," the magazine writer said. "My parents even gave me a dime when I was first old enough to vote and I haven't missed one since."

"I don't know whether this presidential scandal stuff makes any difference." At least he cared enough to wonder. As few as one in three New Yorkers was expected to follow Mr Kalbacker's religious code and go to the poll.

They cannot have been encouraged much by the two men banding out campaign leaflets on West 33rd. One said "I no speak English" and the other did not know where the voting booth was.

Inside the building the depleted electorate was deciding

who would hold each of 10 offices, from state governor to supreme court justices. Voters make their choices behind a black curtain in a box containing a machine with a series of levers, like operating a fruit machine, on a tortuous system that has been compared to the old Soviet model.

In fighting the campaign, neither New York candidate has relied too heavily on their contrasting records on crime, abortion, the economy, education, health care, civil rights or the environment. The real battleground was personality. Mr D'Amato, who has held his seat for 18 years, said Mr Schumer was a lazy liberal. Mr Schumer said that Mr D'Amato was a liar.

And they said it time and again in one of the most heavily bankrolled Senate elections ever, with Mr Schumer, the Democratic-Independent Liberal candidate, laying out \$12.5 million (\$7.5 million) and Mr D'Amato on the Republican-Conservative-Right to Life ticket, spending twice as much. "I was insulted," said one woman. "We're far too intelligent for all that."

The issues might never have emerged, but the political stars did. The Democratic establishment showed how much a Schumer victory mattered to them, with President Bill Clinton campaigning twice for the nine-term member of Congress, Mrs Clinton four times and Vice-President Al Gore also twice. For the president, it was not just a case of taking



Despite this queue to vote yesterday in Wilmore, Kentucky, the turnout for America's mid-term elections was set to be low

care of business. He has a personal interest in seeing the back of Mr D'Amato, who chaired the Senate Whitewater inquiry where he made a strong attack on the Clintons.

Mr Schumer, liberal but not too liberal — he backs the death penalty — is the most formidable opponent Mr D'Amato has faced, and went into election-day level in the polls.

Schumer is matched in New York politics only by Al D'Amato himself in terms ofchutzpah and fortitude," said

Ross Baker, a political scientist at Rutgers University.

But the Republican senator has a reputation for producing an unexpected close to his campaigns and this year he did it again.

In a comment worthy of shock-jock Howard Stern, Mr D'Amato called Mr Schumer a "putzhead" — or fool — as they squabbled over their respective levels of commitment to Holocaust survivors.

Days of semantics ensued, but the spat had a serious side

in the fight to woo the normally Democratic Jewish vote. Six years ago 41 per cent of Jews voted for Mr D'Amato, an Italian Catholic, over another Jewish Democrat, Robert Abrams.

As for Mr Stern, his endorsement of Mr D'Amato has been touted as a potential deciding factor simply because he has a large, politically detached audience which could make all the difference in a tight race. And in eight years, he has never backed a loser.

Martin Walker in Brussels

**T**HE new Opel car manufacturing plant in Poland's Silesian rustbelt goes into its first full week of manufacturing today, as the Polish government grandiose promises of advice for the Ukraine on how to achieve the transition to a successful market economy.

The timing of the two events, as the European Commission is about to issue its closely watched interim report on the progress being made by the candidate states of eastern Europe, looks deliberate. But with multi-billion dollar investments from Fiat and Daewoo, and the value of the zloty back to where it was against the dollar before Russia's financial collapse, Poles claim they are two more examples of eastern Europe's most impressive success story.

Poland, however, remains deeply troubled despite scoring GDP growth of more than 7 per cent for the past three years. The remark by the new German Chancellor, Gerhard Schröder, that European Union enlargement "looks a lot more difficult than it did" sent deep waves of alarm through Warsaw.

His foreign minister, the Green leader, Joschka Fischer, decided he had better add Warsaw to his first foreign jaunt that took him to London and Paris, to reassure the neighbours. He was not altogether successful, because Mr Fischer did not repeat those grandiose promises of advice for the Ukraine on how to achieve the transition to a successful market economy.

The creation of a unified Europe is in the interest of Germany," Mr Fischer said in Warsaw after talks with his Polish counterpart, Bronislaw Geremek. But he stressed that he was no fortune teller, and refused to discuss target dates for Poland's entry, saying: "We need realism. A vision is important, but equally important is a friendly discussion about how to realise our interests equally."

However friendly, their talks focused on two tricky issues: German fears of low-wage Polish workers using EU freedom of movement rules to undercut German jobs; and Polish fears of rich Germans buying Polish estates on the cheap.

In the Commission, officials

stress that the pre-negotiation screening process is on track for all 12 applicants for membership.

In the first wave are Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Estonia and Slovenia (plus Cyprus, if the politics can be resolved). In the second wave are Lithuania, Latvia, Bulgaria, Romania and Slovakia, with Turkey on one side as a special case. But the fact is that the whole enlargement portfolio is constantly being jostled off-track by unexpected events.

Take Malta, where the September election returned a government which revived the formerly frozen application to join the EU.

Democratic, prosperous and stable, Malta should be a shoe-in for fast entry. Even the Commission agreed it would only have to update the work it had already done for Malta's accession.

But Malta's application is now on hold, and the Commission says it will not be able to submit its report until after the EU summit in Vienna next month. The reason is that everybody wants to avoid another row over enlargement at Vienna, like the one a year ago over Turkey which overshadowed the Luxembourg summit.

## Polish success story hides fears of exclusion

Martin Walker in Brussels

**T**HE new Opel car manufacturing plant in Poland's Silesian rustbelt goes into its first full week of manufacturing today, as the Polish government grandiose promises of advice for the Ukraine on how to achieve the transition to a successful market economy.

The timing of the two events, as the European Commission is about to issue its closely watched interim report on the progress being made by the candidate states of eastern Europe, looks deliberate. But with multi-billion dollar investments from Fiat and Daewoo, and the value of the zloty back to where it was against the dollar before Russia's financial collapse, Poles claim they are two more examples of eastern Europe's most impressive success story.

Poland, however, remains deeply troubled despite scoring GDP growth of more than 7 per cent for the past three years. The remark by the new German Chancellor, Gerhard Schröder, that European Union enlargement "looks a lot more difficult than it did" sent deep waves of alarm through Warsaw.

His foreign minister, the Green leader, Joschka Fischer, decided he had better add Warsaw to his first foreign jaunt that took him to London and Paris, to reassure the neighbours. He was not altogether successful, because Mr Fischer did not repeat those grandiose promises of advice for the Ukraine on how to achieve the transition to a successful market economy.

The creation of a unified Europe is in the interest of Germany," Mr Fischer said in Warsaw after talks with his Polish counterpart, Bronislaw Geremek. But he stressed that he was no fortune teller, and refused to discuss target dates for Poland's entry, saying: "We need realism. A vision is important, but equally important is a friendly discussion about how to realise our interests equally."

However friendly, their talks focused on two tricky issues: German fears of low-wage Polish workers using EU freedom of movement rules to undercut German jobs; and Polish fears of rich Germans buying Polish estates on the cheap.

In the Commission, officials

stress that the pre-negotiation screening process is on track for all 12 applicants for membership.

In the first wave are Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Estonia and Slovenia (plus Cyprus, if the politics can be resolved). In the second wave are Lithuania, Latvia, Bulgaria, Romania and Slovakia, with Turkey on one side as a special case. But the fact is that the whole enlargement portfolio is constantly being jostled off-track by unexpected events.

Take Malta, where the September election returned a government which revived the formerly frozen application to join the EU.

Democratic, prosperous and stable, Malta should be a shoe-in for fast entry. Even the Commission agreed it would only have to update the work it had already done for Malta's accession.

But Malta's application is now on hold, and the Commission says it will not be able to submit its report until after the EU summit in Vienna next month. The reason is that everybody wants to avoid another row over enlargement at Vienna, like the one a year ago over Turkey which overshadowed the Luxembourg summit.

## Capital's humiliation ends as mayor replaced

Julian Burger in Washington

**Y**ESTERDAY'S elections will end one of the great anomalies of US politics — the three-year humiliation of the city of Washington by federally appointed administrators imposed after Congress judged the country's capital unfit to govern itself.

From next year Washington will regain the substantial powers stripped from it

in 1995 as a result of the scandal surrounding its flamboyant mayor, Marion Barry (pictured right). He leaves office on January 3.

Mr Barry, a former crack cocaine addict, announced this year he would not stand for re-election, bowing to Democratic Party pressure.

Most of his spending powers were removed and transferred to a financial control board after the city slid to the brink of bank-

ruptcy and municipal services collapsed. He was not even allowed to attend meetings where the five-member financial responsibility and management assistance authority made its decisions on the city's finances.

Mr Barry was left with limited control of libraries, parks and playgrounds.

After three years of direct rule, the crime rate is down, the budget is balanced and the city's schools

have opened on time for the first time since 1995.

The decision to restore local democracy to Washington turned yesterday's mayoral race into one of the most important in the country. Last night

Anthony Williams, a bow-tied black Democrat who ran on his record of financial rectitude as a member of the control board, was thought to be ahead of the Republican candidate, Carol Schwartz.





Guardian  
town stays  
optimistic

Go to the Editor  
Going

Single trans

## Diary

Matthew Norman

THE great mystery of the Pinochet affair — what in God's name was Robin Cook thinking of when he allowed the General into Britain — may have been solved. Earlier this week, when visiting his hairdresser, Taylor's of St James's, Tariq Ali mentioned to the barber that Ugly Rumours, his satire on the Government, was opening that night at the Tricycle in Kilburn. That's funny, said the barber, I cut Robin Cook's hair. How interesting, said Tariq. Yes, said the barber, he's quite a nice fellow. Oh yes, and whenever he's in London, I cut General Pinochet's hair too. I gave him a cut the day before he went into hospital. So now we know. The Foreign Secretary clearly belongs to a secret, Masonic-style international brotherhood, the Square Scissors of St James's, whose members vow to act in each other's interests on pain of being scalped. The sign of recognition is a snipping motion with the index and third fingers of the right hand. Robin Twyman at the FO confirms that Cookie does use Taylor's, but studiously refuses to deny the Square Scissors allegation. "I cannot comment," he says, "on anything else."

MEANWHILE, the General is on Paul Johnson's mind in a 70th-birthday interview with the Independent. "I had tea in Chile with Pinochet. He's totally harmless," says my same and rational friend. "Don't believe he's ever hurt anybody." It is not this sensible remark, however, that lands him in hot water, but another. He describes the claims made in the Express by onetime mistress Gloria Stewart concerning the regular spankings he liked her to administer as "all lies, lies, lies. Pure invention." What has the silly old chump done now? Gloria intends to sue him for libel. Let us hope the explicit tape recording Gloria made in Paul's house in early February is no obstacle to his defence.

FOR all his power, Bill Gates seems oddly unmoved by his own Microsoft programmers. Anyone with Microsoft's Windows 95 (or more recent Windows software) might open a new document, change the language to "English (United States)", and type the words "I like to see Bill Gates dead". Highlight the sentence, select "Thesaurus", and the suggested alternative reads: "I'll drink to that."

MY colleague Jonathan Freedland receives a letter from Oofy Wegz Prosser. "I have attached a copy of the speech Peter gave to the CBI annual conference earlier today," writes Oofy. We turn to the document. "Speech by the Chancellor of the Exchequer at the CBI national conference." It announces at the top. Has a reshuffle taken place in secret? Or is Oofy slow to recover from dinner at my house on Friday night... a dinner which was, beyond dispute, the most joyous and memorable event this column has known in recent years. I am still too shocked to write about it today, but it will be the subject of a Diary Special — on no account whatsoever to be missed — tomorrow.

THE Government is furious. It is reported that my friend Lord Bell is advising the South African government on its campaign for the 2006 World Cup. We all know how much Mr Tony Blair adores football (and will adore it, indeed, until the moment it begins to go out of fashion), and wants the tournament to be held here, in which case, he should relax: there could be no better boost to England's pitch for the 2006 World Cup than news that "Tummy" is working for the main rival.

I AM surprised by a Telegraph article, in the form of a letter, by its letters editor (he is plugging his new book — a collection of letters, coincidentally, to the Telegraph). Perhaps unaware of letters etiquette, the author wrongly signs it "David Twiston Davies, London E14." In fact, David lives — and where else could a Telegraph letters editor live? — in Tunbridge Wells. Poor show.



## Coming soon in an election near you: candidates similar to Old Man Tuttle

Jonathan Freedland



THE pundits are calling it the Seinfeld Election: like the now-defunct sitcom, yesterday's mid-term contests in America were, say the experts, essentially about nothing. OK, the face of Monica Lewinsky hovered above the whole affair — so that this morning's results will be interpreted as a referendum on the impeachment of President Clinton — but according to the punditocracy, there was no single question of policy that dominated the autumn campaign. Instead it was merely a string of unconnected races, each one preoccupied with its own, narrow concerns. The famous maxim coined by the grizzled old Speaker of the House, Tip O'Neill, was never truer: in the America of 1998, all politics was local.

But that's exactly why we in Britain should be interested. For the sheer range of the conflicts settled last night is proof of what happens when power is spread around a political system. Devolution and reform of our second chamber, both now under way in our own country, will have all kinds of effects — and one of them is visible right now, across the Atlantic.

For the election junkie, it's been a feast — with the Big Apple of New York the obvious starter. There two veteran political bruisers have been whacking each other hard in the season's dirtiest battle, the race to represent the New York state senate. The incumbent was Al D'Amato, a

thuggish, ethically-challenged practitioner of old-time pork-barrel politics. For that reason alone, New Yorkers have tended to forgive his crude, street-fighting manner — the one which led him to brand his Democratic opponent, Chuck Schumer, a "putzhead".

Schumer struck back, accusing D'Amato of using a "Yiddish slur" as a veiled form of anti-Semitism. And, of course, this was the subject of the battle of New York. For D'Amato is Italian and Schumer is Jewish — in a state where those two communities, along with the Irish, have always rivalled each other for pre-eminence.

That's why D'Amato posed in front of a memorial to Holocaust victims and why Schumer went on air to brag about the relatives he lost to the Nazis. It's crass, it's ugly — and quintessentially New York.

A study in contrast has been on offer across state lines, in Vermont. There a 79-year-old retired dairy farmer by the name of Fred Tuttle ran for the US Senate. Or rather, he shuffled, for Fred Tuttle went on air to brag about the relatives he lost to the Nazis. It's crass, it's ugly — and quintessentially New York.

IN CALIFORNIA, all that state's legendary preoccupations were on display. The Republican, Matt Fink, was attacked for being insufficiently green on the environment and intolerant on gay rights — big news in San Francisco. Meanwhile, Californians had a chance to step up their war on smoking by passing the Reiner Amendment, a referendum championed by the actor and director Roh Reiner putting 50 cents on a packet of fags and diverting the proceeds to needy children. Hollywood and health — a perfect Californian blend. And this is how America's

biennial mid-term bout of democratic fever courses through the veins of the US body politic, refreshing the local parts national elections cannot reach.

At the moment, British politics is not much like that. A few MPs can claim a personal following, the odd constituency occasionally hosts a juicy race. (Last year there were a couple: Tattler's battle of Hamilton v Bell, and Exeter's clash between Ben Bradshaw, who's gay, and the "family values" campaigner, Adrian Rogers.) But, ordinarily, British parliamentary elections are merely mini-versions of the nationwide contest, with local factors kept to a minimum.

That could soon change. Elections for the Scottish Parliament and Welsh Assembly will tease out questions rarely aired across the UK. The London mayor's race promises a New York-style battle royal, with shameless pandering to the city's minorities and, perhaps, the championing of newer causes, including some that would be deemed dangerously progressive beyond the capital. New, larger constituencies — whether for a post-Jenkins Commons or an elected second chamber — will also require more regionally-conscious politicking.

All this may not bring Westminster a fast-talking Italian or a hobnobbing dairy farmer, but that's the point: the coming diffusion of power will give us a new crop of local heroes — our very own.

views on this policy will always trap ministers in the Pushmepullyou position. For he also said: "Marriage is important, but stable relationships are important." Asked if cohabiting couples were equally important, he said: "Of course they're equally important." But then of course he had to add: "All the evidence is that if you are married your relationship is more likely to endure and be stable."

Not so. LSE research in progress demolishes the idea that marriage makes people stay together cohabiting some-times indicates fragile relationships but marriage wouldn't glue them together. So expect a glorious spectacle of more ministerial knickers twisting in the wind as they try to explain this policy today.

They didn't have to do this. And if they are wise, they will now stop doing it. This ragbag document tries to package up quite disparate policies, some of them banal and trivial, in the same parcel as some of the government's most important social policy big ideas. Civil baby-naming ceremonies may or may not become popular, but they will hardly change the culture of family life. But tax credits for child care so that women can work may well make a real difference to the wealth and happiness of many families.

Turning deeply reluctant registrars into civil vicars delivering homilies to marrying couples on family values is only mildly silly, but it certainly has no place alongside the \$540m Sure Start education programme for the most disadvantaged infants. A mighty new role for health visitors really will reach into the dark heart of families on the

This plan for 'the family' is a mish-mash of good and bad

## Push-pull position

Polly Toynbee



TODAY'S Home Office paper on the family will be a hybrid beast, a Pushmepullyou facing both ways. Half this Janus-headed thing looks backwards, yearning for golden 1950s family certainties, and half of it looks forward to the way families actually are.

Gordon Brown's green budget yesterday reminded us that the most important things this Government is doing for the family spring from the Treasury: far more generous subsidies to poor working families, serious money for child care and for poor 16-year-olds in education. The Home Office, striking at the earliest roots of crime, brings in the Sure Start programme to rescue the most deprived young children. All this is the forward looking part of the Government's family policy, with every hope of helping the most miserable families.

Its backward looking face is that of the three Christian family meo — Blair, Straw and Boateng — sailing dangerously close to back-to-basics: they hardly needed Ron Davies as a warning. However, office they keep saying that they are not interested in the private sex lives of adults, they are learning the hard way that by clothing some of their key social policies in this family package, they excite all the wrong expectations on all sides.

Today's paper will please few, which is a shame since so much of it is very good indeed. But the best is jumbled up with a rum hotch-potch of marriage-saving devices which look like family values gift-wrapping. The three Christian men seem to believe in some muddled fuzzy way that the state can encourage people to marry and stay married, though when it comes to particulars, these are risibly feeble. Despite the lack of any big moral stick or juicy financial carrot, that code word "family" and a firm statement in favour of marriage already has liberals and feminists foaming at the mouth.

It will not please the Spectator crowd either, those effete laconic laissez-faire libertarians who sneer at all social policy as boring do-gooding. They will write their usual ignorant, don't-know-don't-care pieces protesting at Labour's interfering nannyism, as if their own well-appointed nurseries were about to be invaded by ravaging hordes of woolly-hatted social workers.

IF IT was designed to appease the Daily Mail's hilariously warped family crusade, it has already attracted their wrath along with the contempt of rightwing family campaigners such as Patricia Morgan and Melanie Phillips. They want large tax and benefit incentives for the married and a return to fault in divorce with heavy financial penalties for the One To Blame. These things the Government has absolutely no intention of doing. The new divorce law is in a mess and will need new legislation to sort it out but no one is going to bring back fault. The judges gave up on it long ago, not having the wisdom of Solomon to decide who did what to whom when and whose behaviour was the most unreasonable.

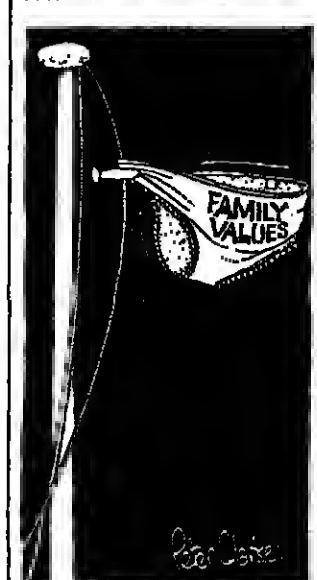
No, the family values lobby will not be mollified with this document. It will just stir them up to no avail. The Mail ripped apart an interview Boateng gave the BBC this week: "Single parents and homosexuals should enjoy the same status as married couples bringing up children, a Government minister claimed yesterday," it wrote. Oh no, he didn't mean that, a briefer said quickly, or at least not quite. Well, he sort of did and sort of didn't, for all inter-

views on this policy will always trap ministers in the Pushmepullyou position. For he also said: "Marriage is important, but stable relationships are important." Asked if cohabiting couples were equally important, he said: "Of course they're equally important." But then of course he had to add: "All the evidence is that if you are married your relationship is more likely to endure and be stable."

Not so. LSE research in progress demolishes the idea that marriage makes people stay together cohabiting some-times indicates fragile relationships but marriage wouldn't glue them together. So expect a glorious spectacle of more ministerial knickers twisting in the wind as they try to explain this policy today.

They didn't have to do this. And if they are wise, they will now stop doing it. This ragbag document tries to package up quite disparate policies, some of them banal and trivial, in the same parcel as some of the government's most important social policy big ideas. Civil baby-naming ceremonies may or may not become popular, but they will hardly change the culture of family life. But tax credits for child care so that women can work may well make a real difference to the wealth and happiness of many families.

Turning deeply reluctant registrars into civil vicars delivering homilies to marrying couples on family values is only mildly silly, but it certainly has no place alongside the \$540m Sure Start education programme for the most disadvantaged infants. A mighty new role for health visitors really will reach into the dark heart of families on the



Ministerial knickers will twist in the wind as they try to explain this policy

edge, but pre-nuptial marriage agreements are neither here nor there. As for automatic legal rights for single fathers — however little they deserve them — that is an invention designed to pad out this policy that is potentially very dangerous.

This is called a "consultation document" — not even a green paper. Much of it belongs in other policy documents, in work already in progress with Treasury money already given. My suggestion for their consultation process is that they take away this cobble-together confection and dismantle it. Bring back the important parts separately to be debated in their own right, unclouded by the confetti of marriage ideas that distract and diminish the rest. Still to come are two very important papers on teenage pregnancy and domestic violence. Obviously, the ministerial group on the family is ploughing on, with promises and threats of more policies — maybe a Royal Commission on fathers and a policy on the problem of boys — both dubious starting points. This paper isn't joined-up policy, it's cobble-together policy. It may get such a mauling today that ministers would do well to abandon the "family" and "marriage" labels altogether. Moralists think it bogus, libertarians think it nosey and liberals think it both authoritarian or hypocritical.

Pinochet's men did this to me and my friends. How can we let him go free today?

## Blood cries out

Sheila Cassidy



IT WAS 24 years ago today that I was lying on my bunk in the Villa Grimaldi, Chile's best-known interrogation centre. With me, in that small room, were 3 companions: Lella, Francisca and Anna Maria. I was 37, and they were in their late teens and early 20s; university students who had become "involved in politics".

Stiff and sore from the electric shocks, I was bleeding heavily. My own blood mingling with the dried blood on my jeans: the blood of Enquetta, the Cubanian Fathers' housekeeper who was killed when I was arrested. Once again, we watched

through our barred window as the male prisoners were taken to the lavatory: a pathetic file of 50 men, young and old, each blindfolded, with a hand on the shoulder of the man in front. The day before I and my three companions had sat at my window and sung the Spanish version of Beethoven's Ode To Joy to them, but now we dared turn their head to acknowledge us.

Where are they now, these men? I do not know, but some must be dead, the others scattered to the four winds in the UK, France, Sweden, Norway or the former East Germany. By now, some will have returned to Chile, for the people's love of their land is very powerful.

Some time during that day 24 years ago, one of my guards came to get me. I was terrified, as on previous occasions I had been returned to the *parilla*, the "harbinger", which was their favoured aid to interrogation. This time, however, things were different: instead of my cloth blindfold, my eyes were taped closed with sellotape, and covered with sunglasses. An ordinary blindfold is not

too bad: you can loosen it a little for your clothes — which is what my interrogators said when I arrived at the Grimaldi.

I remember too, the Lenten suppers in the convent where I was later misguidedly trying to become a nun. The dry bread stuck in my throat just as it had when I was in solitary confinement. The sensation triggered the memory and I sat there in tears, as alone as I had been in prison.

And now, 24 years later, I am about to board the train to London to meet the barrister who will speak at the House of Lords hearing on behalf of those of us who wish to bring a prosecution against Pinochet.

He will also speak on behalf of the family of William Beaure, an Anglo-Chilean businessman arrested in Buenos Aires and returned secretly to Chile. William was seen in the Grimaldi in January 1975 by one of my fellow-prisoners. His sister is to be in London tonight, and the wife of the young American whose story was told in the film *Missing*.

We the living, the articulate, must be the voice of

the thousands who have no voice: the family of the 2,000 "disappeared". I have lived to tell my story of torture at the Villa Grimaldi, of my sadistic transfer to Cuatro Alamos, of the 3 weeks in solitary and then a further 5 weeks in detention.

BUT many who were seen at the Grimaldi were never seen again. They were "disappeared". Perhaps some were run over as I feared I would be. Some were likely shot. But their loved ones live on. That kind of grief does not resolve, but remains as a chronic heartache.

The British courts have it in their power to make an important stand for justice. How in God's name, in the names of the dead and the grieving, can they quibble over an outdated law? How can America feel it right to bomb Saddam Hussein, and England set free a similar tyrant? I believe that British justice stands in the dock today.

Dr Cassidy was arrested in Chile in 1975 (for treating an injured fugitive)

صلى الله عليه وسلم



# The Guardian

Wednesday November 4 1998  
Edition Number 47326  
119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER  
Tel No: 0171-278 1332  
Fax No: 0171-8374530  
E-mail: letters@guardian.co.uk  
Website: http://www.guardian.co.uk

## Brown stays optimistic

He must cut interest rates

GORDON BROWN'S new spending initiatives — £250 million for the health service and £25 million for teenage training will be the immediate talking points of yesterday's pre-budget statement — but the real test is whether the Chancellor has done his macro-economic sum properly. What happens to economic growth and unemployment during the next couple of years is far more important in the long run than headline grabbing morsels, welcome though they are. Yesterday's statement is the second example of the Government's refreshing practice of setting out policy options for discussion in advance of the spring budget so they can be opened to national debate. Already a pattern is emerging in which slightly more gloomy speculation before the speech is not discouraged in order to put the statement itself in a better light. Contrary to some expectations, there is no suggestion of withdrawal of tax relief on pensions or a huge increase in "green" petrol charges (beyond inherited obligations). Projections for economic growth next year (1.0 to 1.5 per cent) are slightly above dashed expectations and only a bit below the 1.5 to 2.0 per cent forecast at the same time a year ago. Growth projections for 2000 (2.25 to 2.75 per cent) are unchanged from a year earlier, notwithstanding the financial hurricane that topped a quarter of the world into recession.

This is true then the UK economy will experience a soft landing and John Redwood's criticism that Mr Brown's forecasts

are "recklessly over-optimistic" will not come true. Who is right? On the fiscal side Chancellor appears to have prudence on his side. Public spending turns out to be £2 billion less this year than what were considered to be the draconian targets inherited from Kenneth Clarke. The result is that the year's budget will be £5.5 billion in surplus enabling the Government to repay £1.5 billion of the national debt. Mr Brown expects the budget surplus to be £1 billion next year, rising to £3 billion, £8 billion and £10 billion in subsequent years. If these figures are adjusted to the Maastricht criteria (ie deficits must not exceed 3 per cent of GDP) then the outlook seems rosy. There are surpluses, not deficits for the next three years, notwithstanding the substantial increases in public spending on health and education starting next April.

The danger signals are coming from the real economy. If growth is caught in a squeeze between the overvaluation of the pound (which hit exports badly this year) and unexpectedly had side effects from the Asian crisis then all bets will be off. Against this if the UK benefits from the long overdue expansion of Europe's economy — responsible for half our trade — and, hopefully, from further interest rate cuts, then the pound may fall giving credence to the 3 per cent rise in exports forecast for next year.

In the long term, the most encouraging part of yesterday's statement was the batch of initiatives to improve the underlying potential of the economy — by encouraging enterprise, employee shareholding and innovation particularly among small firms. These initiatives include a review of the relationship between banks and small businesses, increased powers for the Office of Fair Trading to enforce competition, improving the skills of young people and encouraging venture capital. Little of this

will hit the headlines but it is a necessary part of improving Britain's poor productivity record. Labour, in a historic political transformation, has convinced the CBI that it is working for business and enterprise. A few years ago this would have seemed like the Conservatives proving they are the party of the unions.

There were few surprises for hard pressed services — health, education, social services. To his credit, the Chancellor has protected his £40 billion three-year expansion of health and education but there may be a serious hiccup before then. The £250 million to help the NHS through the winter compares with £300 million last year. It only survived because of mild weather and the absence of the usual flu epidemic. Ministers may not be as lucky this time.

The £250 million to woo drop-outs back into education — foreshadowed in yesterday's Guardian Education — will tackle one of the nation's most serious problems: 200,000 young people aged 16 to 18 who have left school without qualifications. Now they are to be offered maintenance allowances of up to £40 a week if they agree to return to full-time education.

The Chancellor has every reason to be proud of the Government's welfare to work programme: a New Deal which will have helped 300,000 people by next April. Already 29,000 companies have signed up. Yesterday further extensions were announced: 50,000 opportunities in 28 areas for the long-term unemployed and a guarantee of new opportunities to unemployed people in Northern Ireland. The working poor will be better off under Labour with the working family tax credit, which was already guaranteeing a minimum income of £180 a week from next April, will now rise to £190 in October with no income tax to pay on incomes below £220. All of this bolsters the Chancellor's ambi-

tion to balance enterprise with fairness. The main problem, as with so many administrations, is to prevent being "blown off course" during a period when forecasts for world growth have been halved. Mr Brown's forecasts still look too optimistic. And they will look even more optimistic if the Bank of England doesn't continue to reduce interest rates. Starting again tomorrow.

## Malaysian stirfry

It needs a taste of justice

REMEMBER the fashion for "Asian values," the modish admiration for Singaporean and Malaysian notions of hierarchy, discipline and family order? Well, those values are on trial — along with Dr Anwar Ibrahim, the former deputy prime minister and finance minister of Malaysia. In September, Dr Anwar was confronted with a charge sheet which reads like an obscene publication, including 10 counts of sodomy, corruption and adultery. Opinions are sharply divided over those accusations, levelled against a devoted family man and pious Muslim. Instead Dr Anwar seems to be persecuted because of his past status as Malaysia's arch-moderniser and current position as focus of political dissent.

Hence today's fears for the fairness of his trial and his treatment in prison. In an earlier court appearance he had a black eye, when he returned to court this week he had clearly lost weight. Throughout the pre-trial period, Malaysia's prime minister, Mahathir Mohamad — in the job for an impressive 17 years — made public comments assuming the guilt of Dr Anwar.

Now that the trial is underway, there are fresh grounds for concern. The former minister wanted his case to be heard in English, so that foreign observers could see whether

justice was being done. But this week the judge ruled that the trial had to be conducted in Bahasa Malaysia — the local tongue.

The judge has also ruled that it would be an "insult" to the High Court to grant special observer status either to outside human rights groups, including Amnesty International, or to the local bar council. All this hardly leads to great confidence in Dr Anwar's chances of a fair trial.

And yet this is the very same Malaysia, and the same Mahathir Mohamad, who were once so fond of lecturing Western governments and businessmen on the tigerish performance of the East Asian economies — suggesting their success was down to a stir-fry of Asian religious and social practices. When Malaysian growth rates were as high as the skyscrapers rising out of Kuala Lumpur, many Westerners were prepared to listen. The Tories even knocked out a version of their own: back to basics. But now that the Asian economic crisis has pulled the tigers' teeth, foreigners and Malaysians alike have lost their enthusiasm. Dr Mahathir may be right to be taking a stand against the excesses of global financial speculation, but his intemperate attacks on the West, Jews and unspecified enemies of Malaysia have hardly helped his case. Nor has the treatment of Dr Anwar.

Whatever the ultimate verdict, this episode is already marking a break in Malaysia's national life. The change of regime in neighbouring Indonesia has stimulated Malaysian appetites for better government: people there no longer seem willing to accept economic success in place of democratic reform. The trial of Anwar Ibrahim suggests Malaysians will not be satisfied by those much-vaunted "Asian values" alone. They also appear to hanker for a more universal ideal: justice.

## Letters to the Editor

### Iron planes to a poem

A LARROBINSON (Letters, November 3) talks of the "salesperson's" role of flight attendant. On short flights, there are either food trolleys or duty-free goods being wheeled along the aisle of the aircraft for most of the journey. There may be "two doors at the front and two doors at the back" for emergency escape, but no-one ever explains how to negotiate past the drink trolley in a dark, smoke-filled aeroplane, with all the passengers panicking. S J Barber, Herts/Surrey.

YESTERDAY'S Royal British Legion Novice Chase at Warwick was won by the favourite, Clinton Reganecque, one third at \$3.1. Interesting. I'm Maggy, ridden by A. Dohm, came nowhere. Does this mean that even horse racing can reflect modern politics? Toby Wood, Peterborough.

SURELY England's prob, November 3) is much to do with the dilemma posed by increased social mobility? The jet who has done most to exploit the effects of this change is John Hedges. Who can forget his classic poem on the subject.

Member Lodon  
I'm snafolling my crown  
The next poet laureate, I think you'll agree.  
Celia O'Reilly, Cambridge.

Who not publish letters where an e-mail address is supplied; please include a full address. We may edit letters: after one we are more likely to hear. Please provide a reference to the relevant article.

## Going to work on drugs

IN COMPANIES which have already installed random testing of employees for alcohol and other drugs (in 10 workers test positive for drugs, November 2), employees who either fail the test or refuse to take it are almost invariably dismissed, regardless of work record.

In such companies, employees at risk of failing a test tailor their drinking and drug-taking to avoid detection. They binge-drink at weekends or avoid cannabis in favour of more dangerous but more rapidly-metabolised drugs, for example. This neither improves their performance at work nor tackles the problem in society at large.

Where the safety of the public is dependent on the instantaneous judgment of an individual then perhaps random testing may be justified. It must, however, be introduced with the agreement of those affected, with remuneration for the invasion of their privacy and adequate compensation for those conscientious objectors unable to work under such an intrusive system.

Look forward to Tessa Jowell recommending the random testing of MPs, City-types, lawyers, and other

groups upon whose judgment the health of our society depends.  
David Grandy, Nottingham.

LABORATORY testing of the effects of illicit drugs cannot be used as evidence of the negative effects of drug misuse in the workplace (eg "pilots who smoked one cannabis cigarette had trouble controlling a flight simulator 24 hours later"). There may be some research evidence which links illicit drug use to increased workplace risk (ie it is to the employee or his or her colleagues or to the employer in terms of lowered productivity and/or increased absence or turnover).

However, often these studies fail to acknowledge much research literature in the US which has been unable to find a causal relationship between illicit drug use and increased workplace risk.

There is a danger of being sold the drug-testing myth. The relationship between illicit drug use and the workplace environment is much more complicated than your report suggests. Moreover, the introduction of testing raises numerous issues regarding employee

rights and civil liberties. A far better avenue to follow is a drugs and alcohol policy which not only excludes testing but one which favours an inclusive system of support, and only where needed (with problem users some form of treatment).

It is vital that companies considering random testing first establish a substance misuse policy. This should be followed by training and education, and only then should random testing be introduced. This has been the model for the armed forces, arguably the most successful corporate substance misuse programme in Britain.

I have found that, properly approached, random testing is welcomed by employees and contributes to a significant decrease in "stress" related absences; however, introduced badly, it creates at best resentment and mistrust, and at worst is perceived as an assault on employees' civil liberty.  
Julian Hickman, Managing director, Galahad Substance Misuse Solutions, Oxford, Surrey.



## How MPs fail whistleblowers

THE Intelligence and Security Committee have taken some important steps in the direction of accountability (MPs demand spies curb, November 3). However recent disclosures by Richard Tomlinson (of MI6) and David Shaylor (of MI5) have created an immediate need to reconsider the current systems of accountability and the work and organisation of the services. Instead of this happening both individuals have been implicated for their disclosures.

What I was most surprised by in Monday's debate is that not one MP asked any questions about any of these disclosures although many took the opportunity, with the safety of Parliamentary privilege, to criticise the motives of those who made the disclosures.

Given the failure of the Parliamentary system it is no surprise that whistleblowers choose to go to the press instead. The conviction and imprisonment of former officers is not the solution and is unlikely to make them stop disclosing material. In many cases it may have the opposite effect.

John Wadham, Director, Liberty.

This lack of accountability to patients, families and health care staff unites Unison, the BMA and the NES Consultants' Association in opposition to the Private Finance Initiative. Before Labour came to power, it too vehemently condemned the building of NHS hospitals by PFI. We await the Government's explanation of its conversion.

Dr J L Heatley, Oxford.

## Lord Jenkins continues to pick up a proportion of votes

HOPE opponents of Lord Jenkins's proposed new voting system are going to be better informed than your correspondent, John Wilson (Letters, November 3). It is not true that Lord Jenkins switched parties while a sitting MP. He was a Labour MP in a Birmingham seat until he resigned on being appointed president of the European Commission. When his term of office ended, he set up the SDP with the other members of the Gang of Four and stood as an SDP candidate at Warrington (unsuccessfully) and Glasgow Hillhead (successfully).

Andrew Renshaw, Warrington, Cheshire.

PETE Williams, recently elected to the National Executive Committee as a representative of the self-styled Grassroots Alliance, promises (Letters, November 2) that he and his comrades will be doing everything possible to "throw Jenkins out on his ear". As a

member of the Jenkins Commission, can I point out that a recent survey of 6,000 Labour Party members by Professors Paul Whiteley and Pat Seyd shows that 52 per cent of them support proportional representation for parliament, 27 per cent oppose it, with the rest either for it or against. In the light of this evidence, I am sure that we can expect the comrades to revise their position. If they do not, their pretensions to be representative of the grassroots will have been blown sky-high. David Lipsey, London.

PETE Williams's letter typifies the kneejerk, ungracious reaction of most of those opposing the Jenkins commission recommendations. They seem to think that the voting system should serve their own interests rather than fairness, democracy or, indeed, the people.  
Mark Ramsey, Nottingham.

## The Guardian Subscription Offer

Subscribe today for 35% discount plus free home delivery

The Guardian, as winner of the coveted 1998 "Newspaper of the Year Award", sets the agenda for investigative journalism and quality feature writing. The Guardian Europe includes these award-winning stories and as it is available throughout Europe, it is a truly international paper that brings you the news every day, on the day.

Subscribe to the Guardian Europe today\* and not only will we offer you substantial discounts, but we will deliver your paper to your home or office free of charge.

City	Currency	3 month Guardian @ 20% discount	6 month Guardian @ 30% discount	12 month Guardian @ 35% discount
Milan	ITL	218,400	382,200	703,000
Paris	FF	750	1,310	2,410
Moscow	FR	750	1,310	2,410
Frankfurt	DM	237	415	764
Hamburg	DM	237	415	764
Geneva	SF	216	382	703
Zurich	SF	216	382	703
Brussels	BF	4,370	7,540	14,060
Amsterdam	FL	285	485	855
Madrid	PTGS	15,600	27,300	50,200
Stockholm	SKR	1,080	1,880	3,415
Copenhagen	DJR	1,080	1,880	3,415

Simply call +44 181 410 0216 between 9am and 5pm (GMT).

Please also ask for further subscription offers on the Observer.

\*Offer only available in selected European cities. See table for details.

## Single transferable coup

### Mark Steel



FRANK West's lawyers must be kicking themselves. If only they had thought of the head of state's office whereby you're immune from prosecution if you're an ex-head of state, even you only attained that position by murdering the previous head of state.

They could have advised West to take time off from during his neighbours, burn off the Queen and Prime Minister, and an-

nounce he was taking over for a while. Furthermore, he'd have been assured of a good pay-out to cover expenses, which would have gone a long way towards building costs.

The Lords, many of whom have spent years screaming about headlines being left off with light sentences, seem destined to let a mass murderer off with no sentence at all. Not even 40 hours' community service, or a weekend with social workers saying to him: "I see — and when you set up this military dictatorship — how did it make you feel?"

The arguments for allowing Pinochet to go are almost poetic in their lack of logic. One is that he's a "trail old man". This could lead to a change in the law, with fitness replacing the crime as the criteria for the sentence. After a guilty verdict, the convict will do 10 minutes on an exercise bike, and the more you wheeze, the shorter your sentence. Another argument is that Allende's government

was as glibly as the generals who overthrew it. Andrew Neil wrote that it was Allende's supporters who had "Chilean blood on their hands". So the murderer and murdered are equally to blame. Presumably if Andrew Neil arrived at the house of a psychotic, he could look at the inmate with a chain saw, then at the head in the fridge and say: "Honestly, you're both as mad as each other."

One of Allende's faults, which Neil, amongst others points out, is that he was elected on only 36 per cent of the vote. So I wonder if they told Roy Jenkins about their own ideas on how to top-up the seats of the minority parties. It's much simpler than Jenkins' proposal: you take the first choice of the greatest number of electors and kill him. It's called "The single transferable coup".

A common line has been that Pinochet is simply a "hate figure" for the left. Typical was the Daily tele-

graph editorial which complained about Peter Mandelson's "undergraduate ravings". Much better to conduct affairs in a mature manner, by pouring a chap a port and politely whispering: "Must say, that business with the electrodes was a rum old do."

AND there's the line that Pinochet helped Britain during the Falklands War, although at the time, part of the justification for the war was that Argentina was a military dictatorship. Besides, your average defendant in a murder trial wouldn't be advised to plead for clemency on the grounds that, apart from the offences he was charged with, he also helped his mate drown 300 people in an afternoon.

The darkest argument of all is that to convict him would upset Chileans. Thousands of murders defied water canon. In Santiago last week, chanting: "It's a carnival — the dic-

tator's in jail". And the families of the victims are unanimous in stating that they could cope better with their loss if the general were brought to justice. Their case is so much more powerful than the one to release him, so how is he on the edge of going home? The answer lies with Pinochet's reasons for his actions in the first place.

Allende's Popular Unity coalition came to power on a wave of strikes and peasant uprisings, his most popular policy being to nationalise the copper mines. The country was brought to chaos, when lorry owners went on strike to undermine the regime, and they were joined by a campaign in which industrialists, closed factories, and lawyers and doctors stopped work. To appease them, Allende made the fatal mistake of inviting generals into his cabinet and they seized their chance. A military regime was installed. Allende and thousands of trade unionists were mur-

dered and profits were safe again. The High Court judges, Thatcher, the Lords, the Daily Telegraph, Andrew Neil and the others who defend Pinochet will drink tea with anyone who defends profits. Either that, or the Chileans have just developed an unfortunate coup gene.

Pinochet succeeded when the Popular Unity government played by the rules of legal niceties while he was preparing a whole new game. Now it looks as if another set of legal niceties will allow him to escape again. So Jack Straw should announce that he's being locked up for being an evil bastard and if there's no legal basis for it, so much the better. In fact he's being done for not paying his TV licence as well.

The worst scenario of all would be if he were convicted and sentenced by a British judge. Because they'd say: "There's only one thing that can do you any good my boy — a spell in the army."







# Analysis Chemical weapons



Brown's rum  
hotchpotch  
8



## New routes to old poisons

The Hague convention of 1899 didn't stop the murderous gas warfare of Passchendaele (above). And this week's revelations show that Saddam Hussein's stockpile of chemical weapons is proof that the task has become infinitely harder.

Owen Bowcott reports

THE revelation that Saddam Hussein hides his clandestine chemical weapons programme from even his most senior advisers will have sent a shudder through the international community. Baghdad's latest defiance of the United Nations mission charged with destroying Iraq's secret stockpiles of Sarin and VX nerve agent, has been carefully timed. The West's resolve to bomb Saddam into compliance, as he well knows, is temporarily weakened.

The news from Abbas al-Janabi, one of the most senior defectors of recent years to escape with his life from the heart of Saddam's regime, is a reminder of just how difficult it is to control chemical weapons technology. Interviewed in the Guardian yesterday, Janabi claimed that even the Prime Minister, Tariq Aziz, did not know that Iraq still retained nerve agents.

Trying to put the murderous spin back into the battle once scientists had devised such a lethal arsenal was never a realistic prospect. Preventing proliferation of the "poor man's nuclear bomb" despite the advent of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), is proving a harder task than many imagined.

Obtaining the incontrovertible evidence necessary to prove that chemical weapons are being made or stored is often an elusive quest. Three months after the Pentagon launched a cruise missile attack on Sudan's Al Shifa pharmaceutical factory, for example, its justification is coming under renewed attack. It would not be the first time that American politicians have leapt to conclusions on the basis of microscopic residues.

In 1981, the US State Department claimed that Soviet aircraft were supplying toxins to communist guerrillas in the jungles of Laos and Kampuchea. Several years later, long after the international row over the incident had sub-

sided, it emerged that so-called yellow rain was neither a biological nor chemical warfare agent but simply mass droppings of the giant honeybee, *Apis dorsata* (1).

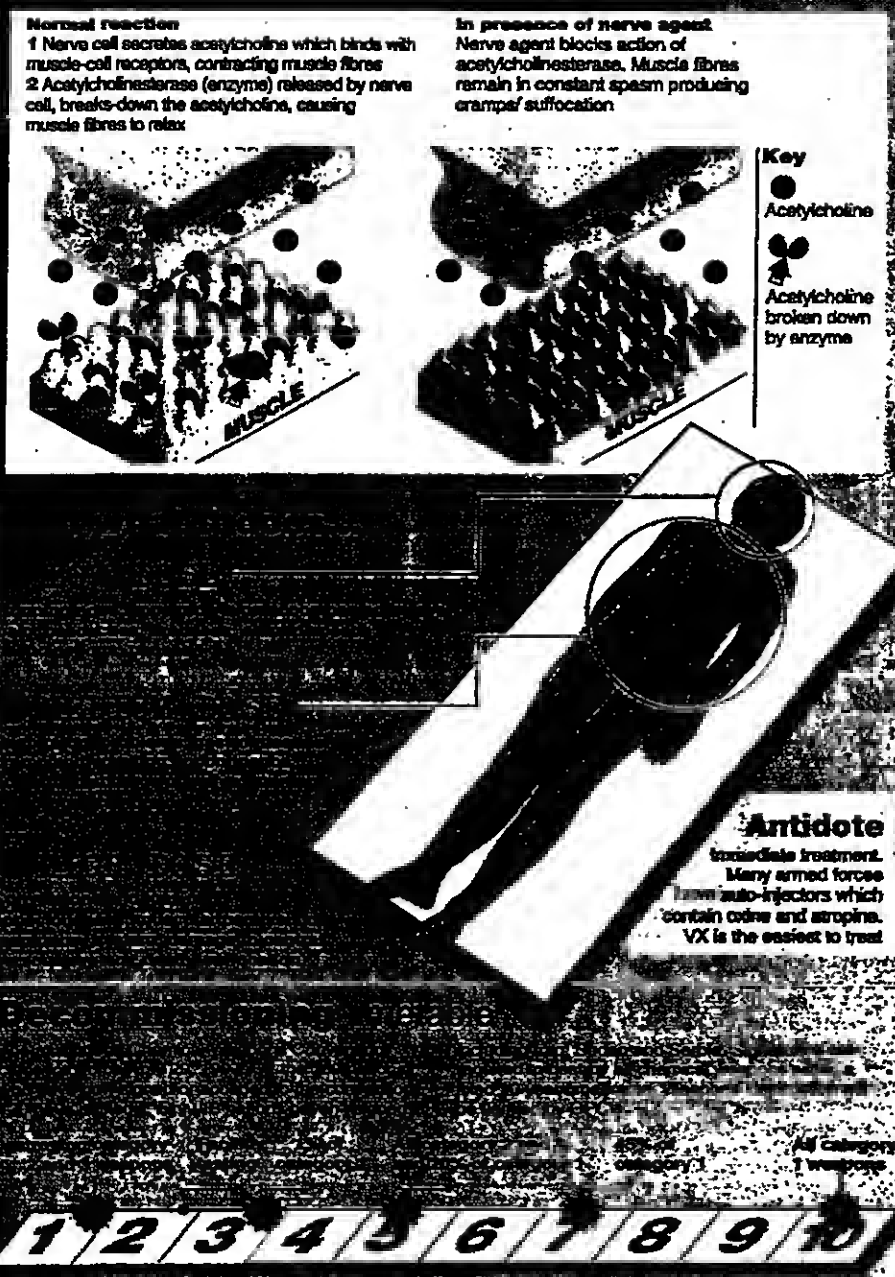
The aftermath of the Sudan attack illustrates the problems of basing pivotal foreign policy decisions on the complexities of chemical analysis. In background briefings, a US Department of Defence official declared: "We know with high confidence that Syria produces a (chemical) precursor that is unique to the production of VX." The deadly nerve agent, discovered in the 1950s, was allegedly being supplied to Iraq's chemical weapons programme.

A few days later the assertion was more qualified. The US' under secretary of state for political affairs, Thomas Pickering, revealed that the soil samples, allegedly obtained by a secret agent who penetrated the Al Shifa plant in the months before the bombing, "shows the presence of chemical whose simple name is EMPFA. It was 'an indicator of a potential to produce VX gas'".

The dispute over the uses of EMPFA, or more precisely O-Ethyl-Methyl-Phosphono-Thioic Acid, illustrates just how hard it is to obtain scientific, let alone political, agreement when seeking to control the chemical weapons trade. EMPFA can indeed be a precursor, or chemical constituent, of VX gas. But even the experts disagree on its legal status. Britain's Chemical Industries Association, for instance, suggests that EMPFA falls under schedule 1A/3 of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC). "Chemicals in this schedule could possibly be used in small quantities for research, but they have little or no civil use in production", according to their spokesman.

But the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Hague-based international body responsible for enforcing the CWC since 1997, believes that EMPFA is covered in schedule

### Nerve gas how it works



2B/4 of the convention. "There are approximately 10,000 compounds of this kind," observed the OPCW's spokesman, Donato Kiniger-Passaghi. "There could be many many applications for this (EMPFA). On the basis of our studies... these chemicals could be used as herbicides or insecticides." Schedule 2 chemicals, he adds, could "possibly be used for peaceful applications". A further complicating factor is that new routes are always being devised to old

poisons. To cope with the multiple permutations of chemicals, and the relative ease with which precursors can be combined into variations of lethal toxins, the convention lists families of multi-hyphenated compounds whose sale and export are controlled.

There they all are listed under their common or battlefield names: Sarin (first developed by the Nazis), its derivative Tabun, Soman, VX, Lewisites, Nitrogen and Sulphur Mustard gases, and Ricin. Contact with

most of them would reduce the human nervous system to instant spasms, inducing suffocation. But alongside them are compounds such as Methylphosphoryl dichloride or Diethylthiophosphoramide. It is these precursors, or chemical building blocks, which trigger so many arguments over whether they have legitimate, peaceful uses.

The developments of the past few months have heightened fears about chemical weapon proliferation among

the OPCW's 200-strong team of inspectors. In September the Dutch confirmed that an El Al airliner which crashed into a block of flats in Amsterdam six years ago was carrying 42 gallons of a chemical known as DMMP, used in the production of Sarin. The containers were destined for the Institute of Biological Research in Nes Ziona, outside Tel Aviv, even though Israel has signed (but not ratified) the convention against chemical weapons. For years, Israeli officials had

refused to comment on "those kind of reports". And last month the UN disarmament mission to destroy Saddam Hussein's former arsenal of chemical weapons confirmed that Iraq had developed the technology to put the deadly VX nerve gas into warheads before the 1991 Gulf War.

"The existence of VX degradation products conflicts with Iraq's declarations that the unilaterally destroyed special warheads had never been filled with any CW (chemical weapons) agents," the UN mission concluded.

Iraq immediately accused the United States of faking results. Even French scientists initially suggested that their findings of nerve agents could have originated from other compounds, such as detergents.

Like nuclear technology, the knowledge of how to create chemical weapons is becoming more widely disseminated. Even lone, crank scientists have succeeded in producing toxins. The most notorious is Aum Shinrikyo, the quasi-Buddhist cult which released Sarin into Tokyo's crowded underground in 1995 killing several commuters. Terrorist groups have so far refrained from such tactics, calculating, perhaps, that any ensuing backlash would discredit their cause.

It would not be difficult for them, however, to develop chemical weapons. Precursors, the OPCW admits, are obtainable through commercial sources.

"Thiodiglycol (listed in schedule 2 of the convention) is an ingredient in both felt pen ink and textile dyes, as well as a precursor of mustard gas", (2). Precursors are often colourless, odourless and difficult to detect. Stored separately they may be loaded into binary shells where they mix on impact to form the deadly gas.

Critics of the Chemical Weapons Convention claim it is doomed to failure because rogue states such as Libya, North Korea and Iraq remain outside the agreement. In force only since April 1997, the CWC has been ratified so far by 120 nations.

The history of previous attempts to control toxic chemicals is chequered. As early as 1875, a Franco-German agreement signed in Strasbourg banned the use of poisoned bullets. The Hague Convention of 1899 pledged signatory states would abstain from using weapons to spread "asphyxiating or dele-

terious gases". But it did not prevent the horrors of Passchendaele.

Britain, which has ratified the CWC, destroyed its chemical weapons arsenals in the 1950s. In deference to the OPCW's far-reaching powers of inspection, the Department of Trade and Industry describes the convention as the "most intrusive arms control treaty ever agreed". Under its terms, the massive stockpiles of chemical weapons held by the Americans, Russians and other signatories will have to be destroyed by the year 2007.

As for the Al Shifa plant, Sudan — which has not ratified the CWC — insists the factory was manufacturing only medicines and chemicals for civilian use. The US State department, which claims it first spotted unusually heavy security around the plant in 1996, doubts whether the soil samples will be made available for outside analysis.

A recent article in the New Yorker by the Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Seymour Hersh suggested that President Clinton had sanctioned the attack on "gossamer-thin" evidence. One congressman who received a CIA briefing after the raid, later declared: "They came up with a lot of suspicious activity but nothing conclusive".

A former US attorney general, Ramsey Clark, who went on a fact-finding mission to the factory in September, returned highly sceptical. "It is absolutely absurd to believe that they scooped up some dirt and found nerve gas on the outside of the plant," Clark said.

Alistair Hay, a reader in chemical pathology at Leeds University and chemical weapons expert, does not believe that the US evidence produced so far constitutes proof. "EMPFA is not the most specific breakdown product or precursor that would allow you to say that this was definitely VX," he says. "It's extremely open. It's not my view that you should send in cruise missiles on the basis of evidence that is questioned."

Sources: (1) Science policy research unit, Sussex University; (2) Chemical Disarmament: basic facts, OPCW.

Graphics sources: Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons; the Chemical Industries Association; The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. Photographs: Patrick Allen, Stefan Bayley. Research: Matthew Keating. Owen Bowcott is an assistant foreign news editor.

# no.geekspeak@demon

you don't have to learn a whole new language to use the internet because at demon we do everything in beautiful, plain english. that's how we've made getting on-line so simple. perhaps this explains why we're the uk's number one internet service provider. so for your free 30-day trial cd and brochure, call 0800 458 9666 or scribble your name and address anywhere on this ad, tear it out and send it to us at freepost demon (yes, that's all you have to write). it's like having a natter with your mates, only easier.



**Demon Internet**

more people get on with us

**0800 458 9666**

www.demon.net email: sales@demon.net



A boost to the NHS and help for the disabled and elderly should please Old and New Labour



An injection of cash will protect the very young and the elderly, both areas of traditional Labour concern

PHOTOGRAPH: GARY DALTON

# Hope in the heartland

Seumas Milne

**L**ABOUR yesterday offered its traditional supporters hope that their priorities are being addressed, with an emergency injection of an extra £250 million into the National Health Service and an enhanced minimum income guarantee for low-paid families.

Building on the ground-work laid in his March Budget, the Chancellor also announced a new disabled person's tax credit to help en-

sure work pays for those able to take a job, an extension of the childcare tax credit to cover children up to 14 and a boost of nearly 6 per cent in the new guaranteed minimum family income.

The £250 million winter cash increase for the NHS — which comes on top of the programme of increases announced in the March budget — is to be spent in the next five months.

Low-paid families will be guaranteed a minimum income of £190 a week from next October, as a result of the joint impact of the national minimum wage and working

families tax credit, with no income tax to pay on earnings below £220 a week.

Revealing the combined effect of policies aimed at making work pay more than benefits, Mr Brown declared that by this time next year, a single parent with one child would have a minimum income of at least £550 an hour, while a single adult with two children would be guaranteed £637 an hour. Those are well above the £3.60 adult minimum wage — due to become law next April — which will benefit 1.9 million workers, 1.3 million of them women.

The combination of the new statutory minimum, hourly pay rate and Mr Brown's working families' tax credit will create a floor under family incomes of £180 a week from next April, announced in the Budget last March. The new £190 income guarantee, to be implemented six months later, represents an increase of nearly 6 per cent.

Pensioner couples will also have a guaranteed minimum income of £117 from next April and Mr Brown promised yesterday that in his forthcoming Budget he will set a new level below which they, like families with children, will pay no income tax.

As a result of the cut in VAT on fuel, tougher regulation and the Government's winter fuel payments, Mr Brown said that pensioners are now saving an average of £106 a year on fuel bills, with the poorest pensioners saving £140.

The Chancellor also announced that a new disabled person's tax credit would ensure that a disabled man or woman, with one child, who moves from benefits to employment would be guaranteed a minimum income of £220 a week, with no income tax payable on earnings below £274.

That would, he promised, mean some disabled people would be up to £78 a week better-off.

There was a mixed reaction last night from health unions to Mr Brown's announcement of new money for the NHS this winter. Bob Abberley, of the public service union Unison, said the extra cash showed the Government was listening and would "alleviate real suffering on the wards".

But the Royal College of Nursing said that what was really needed was extra nurses to cope with the extra patients expected over the next few months.

## Policemen like to take a 'sickie'

Dan Atkinson

**T**HE Chancellor's public-sector productivity drive will have to start not with idling dustmen or lethargic roadworkers but with the boys in blue. A Cabinet Office report has put the police and prison service at the top of the "sickie" league.

On average, public-sector workers suffer from more delicate health than their counterparts in private industry, with sick leave running about a third higher. State employees rack up about 10 days "on the sick" each year, private employees about seven.

But there are big differences among the various branches of public service. Way out ahead are police officers and prison warders, with an average of 12 sick days a year. In the worst-offered forces, the figure is as high as 18 days.

Next come NHS employees, with 9.9 days, and council staff, with 9.2. The health of civil servants (the men and women from the ministries) collapses for, on average, a relatively modest eight days a year.

The figures came from a Cabinet Office report in the summer, part of the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review.

The Confederation of British Industry churned out its own report in

September, putting an £11 billion total price tag on "sickies", public and private. It is thought the public sector accounts for about 60 per cent of this.

Keeping the private sector's end up in the bunking-off league were manufacturing, the media, hotels and restaurants, where absenteeism is rife, according to the CBI. Leading the charge for productivity and competitiveness were professional services, retailing and hi-tech industries, where absenteeism is generally low.

Positively Japanese in comparison to the rest of the country were white-collar workers in the East Midlands, sick for just 4.6 days a year, the CBI said. More traditionally British were manual workers in Greater London and the North-west, whose sickness approached police levels, with 13 and 13.6 days' absence a year respectively.

Among the gems in the Cabinet Office report was the appalling sickness record of the Occupational Health and Safety Agency, whose absence levels ran at about double those of the private sector. This put the agency number two in the public-sector absence table, behind the War Pensions Agency, which racked up a truly impressive average of 17.63 days' sickness.

The Cabinet Office itself boasts an average of just 6.4 sick days a year.

## Defence rests its case

Notebook



Alex Brummer

**C**HANCELLOR Gordon Brown's hyperactivity of recent days has been something to behold. We have seen Gordon, the leader of the free world, as the G7 has sought to put the brakes on global crisis and Gordon, the European, as he has set business the challenge for being euro ready.

And now as the Longbridge plant of Rover has the sword of Damocles perched above it, as the Siemens plants in the North-east look for a new owner and those in employment start to wonder how long it will last, we have Gordon the optimist.

Yes, his second pre-Budget report does recognise, more than any government document so far, that global conditions have "deteriorated" in the period since his March Budget. Yet despite his visits to the Far East, his experience of the panic stations in Washington at the IMF meeting and his knowledge of the instability in the global banking system, he remains con-

vinced that Britain, somehow, can avoid disaster.

The core of his argument is the mantra of long-term stability, endlessly repeated. Rather than concede any ground at all to the Opposition, which may have got under the Chancellor's skin with its bellowing about black holes in the Budget, Mr Brown was determined to deliver the case for the defence.

Because the Government took the hard decisions in its first two years in office, throttling down on expenditure and restoring the tax base — creating a £28 billion turnaround in the public finances — it can plough ahead with its public spending plans as announced in July. Better than that, he can throw £250 million at hospital wards this winter and pursue the redistribution agenda.

Certainly, there is nothing in the public finances section of the Chancellor's report to panic the City. Over this cycle the Government's finances will barely dip into the negative column with the public sector net cash requirement — the amount the Government needs to raise on capital markets — just £2.6 billion in deficit next year (1998-99) before it recovers to balance in 1999-2000. This, together with Mr Brown's prediction that there would be no deviation from the central target of 2.5 per cent for inflation over the coming years, put some bounce in gift prices.

The flaw in all of this is the central economic forecasts. One does not want to sound like Francis Maude on a bad day, but there is little doubt

that the Treasury's gloss on the UK's growth prospects of 1 to 1.5 per cent output expansion next year and 2.25 to 2.75 per cent in 2000, does stretch credibility.

It is based largely on the assumption that, although Britain has taken its life from relatively high real interest rates, the strong pound, weakening international markets and tight fiscal policy, the worst could be over. That is certainly the case for interest and for fiscal policy, which is to be loosened so as to pump funds into infrastructure, health and education in the years up to the next election.

**T**HE big uncertainties are international, as Mr Brown knows having contrived to calm the situation down. But the G7 has been behind the curve on all of this. The European economies, which appeared to be following a counter-cyclical path, are starting to suffer.

Confidence in the US is fading fast in the face of a ballooning current account deficit, uncertainty on Wall Street and an investment banking system, which seems to have learnt nothing from past mistakes.

Moreover, even as South Korea shows signs of recovery, others, like Malaysia, are looking weaker. And Latin America is on a knife-edge as the G7 waits on Brazil, the world's ninth-largest economy. Add the possibility of further corrections in equity markets, after the recent "toots" rally and growth forecasts look less secure.

If the growth projections should prove to be wrong, the public finances become a nightmare as Mr Brown's two Tory predecessors can tell him. However much stress testing is done, the public finances always deteriorate more sharply than anticipated during a slowdown.

Where the City may be nervous is on the Government's creeping interest in what goes on in the equity markets. Although there was only one tangible proposal in his budget speech in this area — the stakeholding incentive to workers in quoted companies — the pre-Budget report does make some radical suggestion for shaking up the performance of share markets.

It would clearly like to sweep away the veil of secrecy that surrounds the behaviour of pension funds, as part of the broader move to transparency and accountability in the financial system.

Among other things, it wants to see pension funds exercise their rights to vote more actively, to set out their objectives more clearly and in particular to explain attitudes towards venture capital. More disclosure of the remuneration of fund managers will also be required.

This is a radical reforming agenda which could signal a cultural change in a rather complacent fund management industry. But it is one they might not welcome at a moment when, as Mr Brown has discovered, steering through the uncertainty has to be the main preoccupation.

Sketch

## Clash of the Titanics



Simon Hoggart

**T**HE Chancellor yesterday brought to the House what he called his pre-Budget report. In the past, we had budgets roughly every 12 months. Now we can have them all the year round, like Cadbury's Creme Eggs.

The Tories had billed the session in advance as their greatest onslaught upon the Labour Government. "Froggy" bleeding ministers would reel around the ring, brains cast loose inside their skulls, pleading with the ref to stop the fight.

Unfortunately, they gave the job to the Shadow Chancellor, "Mad Frankie" Maude, who would like to make the teeth rattle in your head. Instead he creates the impression of a peevish hamster.

As usual, he began at a pitch of hysteria and proceeded to get more excited.

The Chancellor was guilty of "fantasy forecasting" and "Peter Pan economics" (why does the resourceful Peter Pan get such a lot of verbal from politicians? Would they prefer Captain Hook economics?) He talked angrily about "fairy tale figures". Someone should tell him that fury looks feeble on a hamster.

As the Chancellor gazed back at him with amiable condescension, Mr Maude brought himself to new heights of frenzy. "He sits there! Grinning! And smiling! It is disgusting complacency! We welcome Labour trying to match our record!" he continued, a big mistake since it gave Labour MPs the chance to release all their pent-up boos and scornful laughter.

And then, finally, he produced the inevitable Titanic metaphor. "They are just moving the deckchairs on the Titanic! There is a 240 billion hole below the waterline of British business! They are painting oude

portraits in the staterooms of industry while the ship of state sails inexorably towards the iceberg of the Chancellor's arrogance and indifference, and soon the economic revival will be just a stream of bubbles under the icy depths of the Atlantic as the prime minister, played by Kate Winslet in a fetching and surprisingly undamaged dress, struggles, weeping, to pull it to the surface."

(I made up the last paragraph, but purely to help Mr Maude. If we must have Titanic metaphors, can't we have some new ones?)

He sat down to jeers from Labour, a self-regarding little smile from the Chancellor, and a sense of vague embarrassment from his colleagues.

(The biggest Tory cheers came whenever any remotely credible body was quoted, as forecasting a recession. I was reminded of a Bill Tidy cartoon in which two polar bears turn up at the White Star line offices, asking: "What news of the iceberg?")

The trouble is, he was right. Like the Titanic, Mr Brown is steering a very stable course, quite possibly straight at the iceberg. Indeed, he used the phrase "steering a stable course" five times during his statement, plus the words "stable" or "stability" 40 of their own another eight.

(Poor old "Prudence", of whom he used to speak constantly, was mentioned only seven times. I do hope she can take the hint.)

There is something awfully ratiocative about a Brown speech. The phrases — "a government that is steering a stable course, prudently investing in our future" — are repeated almost obsessively, as if the more he says it, the more he makes it so.

As I listened, I had a vision of young Gordon, aged eight, emptying his piggy bank and counting the coins time and again, just to make sure they were all still there. But behind the terminology, there was little that was either prudent or stable in the speech. The whole thing depends on the optimistic growth forecasts, which few but the Chancellor believe.

He is like the lottery winner who, told that, regrettably, the last number was 22 not 28, decides to go on and buy the S-reg Merc anyway.

سكنا من الاربعين

010 011



Racing

# Punch fails to land winning blow

New Zealand top Down Under with 1-2 in the Cup. Ken Oliver reports

AUSTRALIAN fears that the Melbourne Cup was destined for export were confirmed yesterday, but it was New Zealand rather than the British who won — courtesy of dramatic, racy gambles, Jezabell.

Godolphin's long-time race favourite Faithful Son, deposed on the day as market leader by the winner, somewhat predictably failed to stay the two-mile trip, trailing home seventh.

Peruvian Punch led home our five-runner challenge, finishing a gallant third, with Taufan's Melody fourth, Yorkshire fifth and Sheer Daring 12th.

As the 24-runner field rounded the final bend it looked as though the leader Peruvian Punch would see off his rivals, but David Kisworth's five-year-old, despite running on gamely, was beaten a neck and half a length by Jezabell and Champagne, who is also trained in New Zealand.

It was the best-ever performance by a British-trained horse, beating last year's fourth by Harbour Dues, and he will be back to try and better that effort next year.

"I'll be back — I want to win the bloody thing," said owner Jeff Smith. "There's my question this is a horse capable of winning the Melbourne Cup."

Peruvian Punch's performance left Smith wondering what might have been had the gelding not had his



Cheer leader... Chris Munce acknowledges the reception from the 100,000 crowd at Flemington after winning the Melbourne Cup on the favourite Jezabell.

preparation interrupted by a skin virus before setting off for Australia.

"What we tried to do was to come over for the Caulfield Cup, but he got a bout of ringworm," said Smith. "If he'd had those extra three weeks and a run he would have been that much sharper."

David Kisworth, the horse's trainer, added: "He had to go round the field because of the draw, but he got there and they did him for speed. I guess he needed

another furlong." Taufan's Melody, who caused such a stir when winning the Caulfield Cup at 66-1, ran a tremendous race to be fourth after being given far too much to do by his rider, Patrick Payne.

Lady Herries, who also saddled last year's fourth Harbour Dues, said: "I didn't think he would get so close because he was too far back on the far side."

Yorkshire's fifth debut, his charge had created a fu-

re before the race after being given special permission to take part by the Victoria Racing Club denying a run to a local horse.

"I've brought my horse in good faith and I'm glad it worked out," said Cole. "I would have liked to have been in the frame, but we got quite close."

Sadly, Singaporean challenger Three Crowns, who led the field in the early stages, broke a leg and was put down.

Large Action, Oliver

Sherwood's top-class handler, has injured a leg and will not race again.

Sherwood said: "He has injured a splint bone and we have decided to call it a day. He was a cracking good horse."

IBAS, the new arbitration service to settle disputes between punters and bookmakers, has named the seven who will be on the panel. It includes Christopher Poole, retired racing correspondent of the Evening Standard.

Rugby Union

# Rodber sees way back through lock

Robert Armstrong reports on a back-row man's forward move for England purposes

TIM RODBER'S decision to switch from No. 8 to the second row in an attempt to win back his England place was given the thumbs up by both Clive Woodward and Martin Johnson after yesterday's squad session at Rotherham.

The England coach welcomed the extra option while Johnson, Rodber's Lions skipper, said the Northampton forward was already up to speed as a potential Test lock. Rodber, who won the first of his 30 caps nearly seven years ago, has not played for England since the 1997 Lions tour to South Africa partly due to injuries, partly because Woodward has preferred Tony Dwyer or Richard Hill at No. 8. However, the coach believes the increasing need for locks who are "genuine footballers" could win in favour of Rodber's role change.

Rodber, who has occasionally played in the Northampton second row, was regarded by the Lions coach Ian McGeechan in 1997 as a replacement lock though he was not asked to play there. His appearances this season have been restricted by a damaged hamstring, the same injury that kept him on the sidelines last year when he also suffered concussion and a knee-capsule injury.

His main England rivals will be Garath Archer, Danny Grewcock and Johnson, whose form will guarantee his place in next week's World Cup quarter-final against Wales.

"It should be easy for Tim to switch because nowadays second-row forwards are expected to offer a great deal more, which he is certainly equipped to do," said Johnson. "He will have no trouble managing the tight work."

In other areas too, adaptability has become a key factor, Woodward suggested. Mike Catt, in his view, has sufficient versatility to perform as an international centre as an alternative to his customary fly-half role. The England coach acknowledged that Catt and Paul Grayson, no longer Northampton's first-choice No. 10, could be useful for the Holland game.

The Saracens forward Paddy Johns will captain Ireland in this month's World Cup qualifying matches against Romania and Georgia, replacing the Lions hooker Keith Wood, who has been left out of the squad after a contractual dispute.

# Henry calls for rule change as Quinnell is suspended

Paul Rees

THE Wales coach Graham Henry has called for football's disciplinary model to be employed after Scott Quinnell, his No. 8, was ruled out of next week's international against South Africa because of a 14-day ban imposed after he was sent off in an English club match.

Quinnell saw red playing for Richmond against Wasps last month after being adjudged to have late-tackled Lawrence Dallaglio. He was suspended by a Rugby Football Union disciplinary panel but the international Rugby Board rules say otherwise.

The Sale team manager Adrian Hadley, who won 27 caps for Wales, has announced his retirement as a player.

# Carling denies story of playing return in France

WILL CARLING last week denied reports that he was trying to make his playing comeback in France.

Earlier Alban Moga, the president of Bègles-Bordeaux, said he had been contacted by an agent claiming to represent the former England captain. "Carling, through his agent, expressed his interest to resurrect his playing career," said Moga. "The agent said Will was very keen to make a comeback in France. Unfortunately we did not pursue the offer."

Carling's agent, John Holmes, denied the story and the player said: "It's untrue. It's the first I've heard of it."

## Musselburgh Jackpot card with form guide

TONY PALEY	TOP FORM
1.05	Love Assembly
2.05	Shaggy Street
2.10	Shaggy Street
2.15	Shaggy Street
2.20	Shaggy Street
2.25	Shaggy Street
2.30	Shaggy Street
2.35	Shaggy Street
2.40	Shaggy Street
2.45	Shaggy Street
2.50	Shaggy Street
2.55	Shaggy Street
3.00	Shaggy Street
3.05	Shaggy Street
3.10	Shaggy Street
3.15	Shaggy Street
3.20	Shaggy Street
3.25	Shaggy Street
3.30	Shaggy Street
3.35	Shaggy Street
3.40	Shaggy Street
3.45	Shaggy Street
3.50	Shaggy Street
3.55	Shaggy Street
4.00	Shaggy Street

Right-handed, oval track of about 130m with sharp turns and 41 no-h. Straight 52. Gate 5, heavy in places. 4 Denotes blinkers. 5 Top form rating. Seven day winners: 1200 Glowing Path. Blanked first time or worse: None. Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J. Flat.

## 1.05 LADBROKE ON-COURSE HANDICAP (Div D)

000003	Johnson (W) (1)	Permit 3-10-12																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
--------	-----------------	----------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--



## Football: Uefa Cup, second round, second leg

FC Zurich 4 Celtic 2 (aggregate 5-3)

## Swiss roll all over Celtic in frantic second-half burst

Patrick Glenn in Zurich

**C**ELTIC made their exit from this competition after a second half of high drama at the Letzigrund Stadium here last night.

The Parkhead side twice went two behind but managed to cut the deficit on each occasion with goals from Phil O'Donnell and Henrik Larsson. But they were eventually undone by a shortage of resources on an evening when six first-team regulars were missing and by their failure to finish the tie in the first leg.

The surface had been turned into a skid-pan by the rain which had fallen all day. But the pitch could not explain the miss by Frederic Chassot early in the match as Celtic's makeshift defence were bedding down.

Alan Stubbs had failed a pre-match fitness test and Shane Mahe and David Hannah formed a new partnership in central defence. As they tried to forge an understanding, the home forwards gave them a searching examination.

They should have been punished when Mahe played the ball straight to Cesar Sant' Anna and the Brazilian's quick pass put Shaun Bartlett clear on the right. The South African striker centred to Chassot, who shot over an unprotected net from six yards.

Celtic had made a half-chance in the opening minutes but Franco Di Jorio intercepted as the Norwegian striker Harald Braithwaak closed on the ball with the Zurich goalkeeper Marco Pascolo advancing.

As Celtic began to find a rhythm, which was orchestrated by their captain Paul Lambert, the Swiss looked uncomfortable. It was difficult not to suppose that players such as Craig Burley, Tom Boyd, Marc Rieper, absent through suspension and injury as well as Stubbs would have helped confirm the impression formed during the first leg that Celtic were fundamentally stronger than their opponents.

But their failure to offer a persistent threat to Pascolo, who had to deal with only a weak header from Darren Jackson and a low 35-yard drive from Lambert, remained a concern.

However, nothing which had occurred during the first half could have prepared the crowd for the excitement of the first 15 minutes of the second leg.

In the 31st minute the ball popped out of a scrimmage following Sant' Anna's cross from the right and Giorgio Del Signore headed home. Within another five minutes the Swiss were two ahead when Chassot took a low cross from the right and turned brilliantly away from

Hannah before chipping over Jonathan Gould.

The applause from that strike had hardly subsided when Celtic hit back. Larsson took possession on the right and delivered a perfect low cross for O'Donnell at the far post and the midfielder coolly swept home from six yards.

For a few moments it seemed that Zurich would panic. But the hopes of Celtic's supporters lasted only six minutes before Bartlett scored Zurich's third.

Andre Wiederkehr's long ball out of defence was missed by Jackie McNamara and the vast space behind him was exploited by Bartlett, who pulled the ball wide of Gould before clipping it into the net from just inside the box.

Larsson responded for Celtic in the 72nd minute with a fierce right-foot shot after Tosh McKinlay's deep cross from the left had been headed across the 18-yard line by Jackson.

But it took only another three minutes for the home side to restore their two-goal advantage when Sant' Anna's shot from the edge of the area took a wicked deflection past Stewart Kerr, who had replaced the injured Gould in the Celtic goal.

FC Zurich (4-4-2): Pascolo; Turone, Model, Sant' Anna, Pissone, Di Jorio, Del Signore, Lima, Wiederkehr, Chassot, Bartlett.

Celtic (4-4-2): Gould; McNamara, Hannah, Mahe, McKinlay, O'Donnell, Jackson, Lambert, I. Sander (Swedish).



On the pull... Eusebio Di Francesco, right, holds off Lee Bowyer during Roma's assured rearguard action at Elland Road last night

DAN CHUNG

Leeds United 0 AS Roma 0 (aggregate 0-1)

## Limp Leeds say arrivederci

Michael Walker

**D**ESPITE facing 10 men for the whole of the second half, Leeds United were last night unable to match the intelligence or poise they displayed in Rome and ultimately Roma's passage into the last 16 was comfortable and deserved.

The red card shown to Roma's Cameroon defender Pierre Wome just before half-time just gave Leeds the momentum, mentally and physically, to pin the Italians back after a deflating first half, but David O'Leary's young side never came close to doing that and the new Leeds manager's pre-match assessment that his squad was too thin and too inexperienced to compete successfully

at this level proved correct. Lucas Radebe's knee injury and Bruno Ribeiro's suspension meant that O'Leary was always going to have to shuffle the side that had played in Rome. In came Ian Harte at left-back, Jonathan Woodgate at centre-half and Lee Sharpe started a match for only the third time this season.

But there was also good news on the injury front — Nigel Martyn was deemed sufficiently fit to play with the rib damage sustained in Rome and the Leeds keeper was quickly involved, saving a shot from Roma's scorer in the first match, Marco Delvecchio, in the sixth minute.

The effort was early reward for Roma's adventurous formation — they began with three forwards — but their defence, as it did in the first leg, looked exposed by this.

Consequently David Hopkin was able to dribble through a soft-looking centre shortly after Delvecchio's chance and Roma were further stretched shortly after by Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink's quick breakaway. When Hasselbaink centred from the right, unfortunately, Sharpe met it with his right foot and the result was predictably poor.

However, in an entertaining and rapidly-moving game, Leeds were unable to maintain any pressure, and before the half-hour Martyn had made three more important saves, one more from Delvecchio and others from the Brazilians Aldair and Paulo Sergio. Francesco Totti, Roma's captain and playmaker, was central to all of the Italians' progression and from one of his inswinging corners, Delvecchio hooked another shot

that landed on the roof of the Leeds net with Martyn stranded.

But then, 60 seconds before the interval, came Wome's dismissal for a second foul on Bowyer. The decision was harsh, though so was Ribeiro's sending-off a fortnight ago.

This obliged the Italians to play with 10 men for 10 minutes longer than Leeds had had to, and their inevitable reorganisation saw the French international defender Vincent Candela replace the winger Sergio.

Yet aside from two pieces of individual invention by Hasselbaink it was difficult to discern any immediate superiority Leeds derived from their numerical advantage.

O'Leary's response was to replace the disappointing Sharpe with Clyde Wijnhard, Harry Kewell moving into

Sharpe's left-wing position.

But there was to be no instant benefit from the change and by the time the constantly dangerous Delvecchio dragged an excellent diagonal drive narrowly wide 20 minutes from the end, Leeds had still not forced Chimenti back into the action.

Six minutes later, though, Hasselbaink at last created another opening. The Dutchman's pass found Bowyer in space and his cross was met by Wijnhard sliding in at the far post. The ball was goal-bound until, comically, it hit Kewell. Sadly, Leeds did not see the funny side.

Leeds United (4-4-2): Martyn; Hopkin, Wijnhard, Ribeiro, Ribeiro, Bowyer, Hopkin, McNamara, Sharpe (Wijnhard, 60min), Hasselbaink, Kewell.

AS Roma (4-3-3): Chimenti; Aldair, Delvecchio, Sergio (Candela, 46min), Delvecchio, Totti (Candela, 60min), Ribeiro, S. Hysenmami (Govi).

## Champions League promise of free-to-all TV highlights

**T**ELEvised highlights of the revamped Champions League will be freely available across Europe, even in those countries where pay-TV channels have the main broadcasting rights.

This promise from Gerard Aigner, Uefa's general secretary, was the only positive message to emerge from yesterday's meeting in Geneva between European football's governing body and the 12 leading clubs.

The spirit of cooperation was tested to the full as the two parties emerged less than united from discussions over the financial aspects of an expanded Champions League.

"I think at the moment that everyone is unhappy," said Liverpool's chief executive Rick Parry. "We dis-

cussed the format and I think we have decided to accept the proposal of 32 clubs. But how the money will be divided was probably the main topic of discussion and there's still some way to go."

Liverpool were joined at the talks by Manchester United, Ajax, Milan, Barcelona, Bayern Munich, Borussia Dortmund, Internazionale, Juventus, Olympique Marseille, Porto and Real Madrid.

Uefa has been forced to propose a revamp of its European competition to head off the threat of a Super League but Aigner admitted: "There was not a uniformity of view. The clubs want half the income to be distributed according to market value [the countries with big-money leagues] and half to be per-

formance-related. We are never going to be able to satisfy everyone. The small clubs think they should have more — and so do the big clubs."

Aigner added that Uefa had identified 17 match dates but had yet to make a detailed investigation. "The fixture list is always a problem," he said, and added a veiled warning: "Each league must examine its own situation and help find a solution." Uefa has tried without success to persuade the English Premiership and Spain to reduce numbers from 20 to 18.

Aigner said Uefa was confident its running of European football would not fall foul of a European Commission investigation, sparked by the Super League organisers Media Partners.

## Referee Poll admits error in not giving Newcastle penalty

Stephen Bradfield

**T**HE referee Graham Poll has admitted he erred in not awarding Newcastle a penalty during the 3-0 defeat by West Ham at St James' Park on Saturday. Poll waved play on after Andy Impey brought down Paul Dalglish.

Philip Don, the Premier League referees' officer, said yesterday: "Graham popped in to see me and we had a look at the video. He accepts it was a penalty. His view was masked by a Newcastle player. This made it difficult to judge."

Don added: "Referees have a job to do and it is to use the best of their ability. I don't think the constant stream of criticism is helping anyone."

Poll came under heavy fire from Newcastle for the penalty incident, and sending off Stuart Pearce, who appeared to use his elbow in a chal-

lenge. They are appealing against his three-match ban. Don defended the dismissal saying: "I support Graham on the sending-off. I don't think there is any argument at all over this."

Rangers have given Newcastle's French striker Stéphane Guivarch an ultimatum to join them after he rejected two previous approaches. They have re-opened talks with the player's advisers and their chairman David Murray said: "This is the last time we will go down this road."

Hull City's player-manager Mark Hateley has been given a guarantee of job security by the club's new owners, Colin Little, the former Scunthorpe chairman who is part of the Sheffield-based consortium that bought Hull from David Lloyd, said: "Mark's position is secure for the moment. Every-one realises he hasn't had any money to spend."

First Division: Crewe Alexandra 1 Sunderland 4

## Ball keeps rolling for Reid

Derek Potter

**A**FTER scoring three at Bolton on Sunday, Sunderland enriched a formidable goal difference that may prove invaluable next May. The four goals they scored last night moved them further ahead of Birmingham City to extend the clubs' best start to a season.

Peter Reid's side, who have not lost in 16 league games, gave Crewe little hope of ending a sequence of 12 games without a win, despite Colin Little's 78th-minute reply.

It seemed an odd move when Dario Gradi, the Crewe coach noted for his tactical expertise, took Rodney Jack out of his three-man attack, introduced a midfield player in Kenny Lunt and switched

from 5-3-3 to 5-3-2. By then Crewe were already a goal down. Yet five minutes after the switch they were unlucky not to equalise when a header by Mark Rivers bounced off the crossbar.

But by the 27th minute Crewe, who began the night 21 places below and 20 points adrift of Sunderland, had conceded a second goal.

Kevin Ball, the captain, is at the heart of so much Sunderland achievement these days and it was his link-up with Niall Quinn and deflected shot that led to the first goal by Daniel Dichio, his ninth of the season.

Then Ball sent Mike Gray sprinting into space to drive his second goal of the season past Jason Kerrison from 20 yards.

While Sunderland have not

lost since going down to Charlton in the play-offs last May, Crewe have not won since they beat Bradford City 2-1 at Gresty Road on August 28 and to be 3-0 down to Sunderland by half-time is not the best platform from which to add to their points tally. That third goal came courtesy of a Quinn backheader which floated over Kerrison's head.

After Mike Bridges replaced Dichio, Gray was carried off injured during a determined comeback by Crewe, only for Bridges to score a spectacular fourth Sunderland goal.

Crewe Alexandra (5-3-3): Kerrison, Blight, Walton (Mazouzy, 75), Lignot, Smith, Johnson, Wright, Greenock, Little, Jack, Rivers.

Sunderland (4-4-2): Sonksen; Maeh, Williams, Butler, Gray (Scott, 65), Mullin, Ball, Williams, Johnson, Quinn, Dichio (Bridges, 60).

Referee: B. Coddington (Sheffield).

Ipswich Town 2 Wolverhampton Wanderers 0

## Burley's men march on

Trevor Haylett

**I**N EACH of the past two November Ipswich have been looking anxiously on the relegation places but this time George Burley's team continued their forward march, a ninth victory of the season lifting them up to second in the First Division last night.

They scored early through James Scowcroft and while they conceded plenty of ground to Wolves they never looked in any great danger and added a second through Mick Stockwell in injury time.

What a stunning blow for the underdog by Norwich City's Craig Bellamy here two weeks ago, not only giving the Canaries victory in the East

Anglian derby, but also proving to be the only goal conceded by Ipswich in the whole of October.

Burley continued with the Spaniard Manuel Tello as a third centre back. With little freedom for Wolves' front men who included Guy Whittingham the visitors were unable to make much of their superior possession.

Ipswich's goal on 16 minutes came when Michael Gilkes was caught out by the flight of Matt Holland's cross, enabling Scowcroft to chest it down and score with a firm volley through the legs of Mike Stowell.

The Wolves' midfield were always vulnerable to the counter-attacks led by the influential Kieron Dyer, who was able to carry the ball deep into opposition terri-

tory. When Ipswich were themselves caught napping a touch more sharpness from Steve Sedgley would have brought him a satisfying goal against his former team.

It was a warning to Burley's side that they needed a second goal. It almost arrived when David Johnson and Scowcroft tried to take advantage of Kevin Muscat's error and should have done when Johnson poked away from Keith Curle to reach an inswinging ball from Jamie Clapham only to plant his head into the roof of the net.

Ipswich Town (5-3-3): Wright, Stockwell, Tait, Clapham, Mowbray, Thelwell, Scowcroft (Naylor, 74min), Holland, Johnson, Dyer.

Wolverhampton (5-3-3): Stowell, Muscat, Gilkes, Sedgley, Sedgley, Curle, Corrie, Robinson (Naylor, 31), Osborn, Connolly, Whittingham, Whittingham.

Referee: R. Farnham (Doncaster).

## A journey too far as Waddle parts company with Torquay

**C**HERIS WADDLE's seven-game spell with Torquay has come to an end because the former England winger found the journey too far from his Sheffield home to Devon.

The manager of the struggling Third Division club Wes Saunders, a friend of Waddle's when they were team-mates at Newcastle, said he was disappointed that he had not been able to persuade the 37-year-old player to continue his week-to-week contract.

"We would like to have made the deal a bit more concrete," Saunders said.

Waddle, two games short of 600 league appearances in a career including spells at Newcastle, Tottenham, Marseille and Sheffield Wednesday, failed to finish on the winning side at Torquay, drawing five and losing two.

Pierre van Hooijdonk's hopes of making his reap-

pearance last night in a Nottingham Forest shirt were washed away when heavy rain forced the postponement of the reserves' match against Birmingham.

The Buddersfield Town winger Ben Thornley is facing a six-week absence after breaking a bone in his foot in Saturday's First Division game at Birmingham.

The Republic of Ireland's European Championship bid to win on November 18 in Belgrade. It was postponed from October 10 because of the threat of military action in the Kosovo crisis.

At least four people were killed and several injured in a car crash on a road in the Congo capital Kinshasa. The game between Sporting Vita and Darling Club Motema Pembe was delayed eight minutes while fans fled and soldiers cleared out the wounded.

## Results

## Football

## UEFA CUP

## Second round, second leg

Auton Villa (1) 1  
Coleraine 30 (pen)  
2-0 (agg: 2-3)

FC Zurich (4) 4  
Celtic 2  
Chassot 56  
Larsson 72  
Burton 61  
Sander 75  
Leeds 10 (3)  
20 (1)  
agg: 9-1

Borussia 2 Slavia Prague 0 (agg: 4-1)  
Bolton 2 Vitesse Arnhem 0 (2-1)  
Vitala Krivak 1 (3-2)  
Club Brugge 3 VVB  
Sturup 2 (agg: 4-0)  
Moukoko 4 AK Graz 0  
(1-3)  
Real Sociedad 8 Dynamo Moscow 0  
(6-2)  
Lyon 3 Crewe Alexandra 1 (agg: 2-1)

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE

## First Division

Crewe 1  
Luton 1  
2-1

Sheff Wed 1  
Sheff Utd 1  
1-1

Wolverhampton 0  
Sheff Wed 1  
1-0

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

## Football

## UEFA CUP

## Second round, second leg

Auton Villa (1) 1  
Coleraine 30 (pen)  
2-0 (agg: 2-3)

FC Zurich (4) 4  
Celtic 2  
Chassot 56  
Larsson 72  
Burton 61  
Sander 75  
Leeds 10 (3)  
20 (1)  
agg: 9-1

Borussia 2 Slavia Prague 0 (agg: 4-1)  
Bolton 2 Vitesse Arnhem 0 (2-1)  
Vitala Krivak 1 (3-2)  
Club Brugge 3 VVB  
Sturup 2 (agg: 4-0)  
Moukoko 4 AK Graz 0  
(1-3)  
Real Sociedad 8 Dynamo Moscow 0  
(6-2)  
Lyon 3 Crewe Alexandra 1 (agg: 2-1)

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE

## First Division

Crewe 1  
Luton 1  
2-1

Sheff Wed 1  
Sheff Utd 1  
1-1

Wolverhampton 0  
Sheff Wed 1  
1-0

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

Walsley 1  
Walsley 1  
1-1

## Football

## UEFA CUP

## Second round, second leg

Auton Villa (1) 1  
Coleraine 30 (pen)  
2-0 (agg: 2-3)

FC Zurich (4) 4  
Celtic 2  
Chassot 56  
Larsson 72  
Burton 61  
Sander 75  
Leeds 10 (3)  
20 (1)  
agg: 9-1

Borussia 2 Slavia Prague 0 (agg: 4-1)  
Bolton 2 Vitesse Arnhem 0 (2-1)  
Vitala Krivak 1 (3-2)  
Club Brugge 3 VVB  
Sturup 2 (agg: 4-0)  
Moukoko 4 AK Graz 0  
(1-3)  
Real Sociedad 8 Dynamo Moscow 0  
(6-2)  
Lyon 3 Crewe Alexandra 1 (agg: 2-1)

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE

## First Division

Crewe 1  
Luton 1  
2-1

Sheff



## Champions League

Group E: Dynamo Kiev v Arsenal

# Wreath of light for anxious Wenger

Martin Thorpe in Kiev

ARSENAL WENGER is never going to show anything but public confidence in his players before such a difficult game as the one he tonight. But even this accentuator of the positive must harbour worrying doubts deep in that academic mind of his about whether the team he puts out in the Olympic Stadium are up to the task.

Losing Dennis Bergkamp was a problem but there was always Marc Overmars' trickery and pace on the left to offer a penetrative alternative. Now the other Dutchman has joined his compatriot on the sidelines, the wisdom of Wenger's faith in youth and inexperience will be tested to the full against a Ukraine side which so impressed Wembley two weeks ago. Emmanuel Petit, too, missed training yesterday with a throat infection, but unless it gets worse the manager is confident that his key midfielder will be fit to start.

Arsenal have a victory and two draws under their belts in this group and, while defeat tonight would not be fatal to their qualifying hopes, it would inflict a nasty wound. The experienced Steve Bould will replace the injured Tony Adams in defence but up front the manager was yesterday still making up his mind about whom to play. Only one thing was clear, "I don't like to play with one up because we would end up doing too much defending," said Wenger.

He outlined three options up front: the 19-year-old Nich-

olas Anelka, playing alongside Christopher Wreh or Luis Boa Morte, or Boa Morte playing on the left with Anelka and Wreh forming the strikeforce. "Overall," said Wenger, "I believe in my players even though they are young and inexperienced."

Their "inexperience", however, is only relative. All three are, after all, internationals while last week Boa Morte and Wreh starred in an Arsenal reserve team which still managed to beat an almost full-strength Derby County at Pride Park in the Worthington Cup.

So perhaps Wenger's confidence is not merely show. All will be revealed in the Olympic Stadium, where a kick-off of 9.45pm local time is not expected to deter some a crowd approaching 80,000 from turning up.

Kiev, who still have hopes of qualifying despite a poor start, are understood to be on bonuses of about £12,000 per man to beat Arsenal, not bad for such an impoverished country. But then this is a club all but run by the government, which is why the team's star striker Andriy Shevchenko sports a Merc and Italian designer clothes.

Arsenal's Wembley tormentor was taken off after 20 minutes of Kiev's game with CSKA last Friday amid reports that he was injured. No such luck for Arsenal: the man Milan are chasing will be there tonight with all his pace and skills trying furiously to rub salt into Arsenal's wounds.

*Lineups (probable):* Dynamo Kiev: Luchyn, Holovak, Vaschuk, Olyshchuk, Kalash, Blazhuk, Hush, Kozlovskiy, Shevchenko, Ratsko. Arsenal (probable): Seaman, Dixon, Kozov, Bould, Winstanley, Parry, Vieira, Petit, Boa Morte, Anelka, Wreh.

Group D: Manchester Utd v Brondby

# Ferguson warns of past upsets

David Lacey

MANCHESTER United's Champions League game against Brondby at Old Trafford tonight looks dangerously easy, a banana skin waiting to happen. Alex Ferguson's team should win comfortably but will still need to watch their step.

Two weeks ago United routed the Danish 5-2 in Copenhagen, having already beaten them 6-0 there in a pre-season friendly. This victory, combined with Barcelona's 1-0 defeat by Bayern Munich in Bavaria, took United to the top of Group D, a point ahead of the Spanish champions. Barcelona and Bayern meet in Spain this evening.

Already the game between Barcelona and Manchester United at the Nou Camp in three weeks' time is looking like one of those climactic confrontations which were always the stuff of the European Cup. If both win tonight a draw from that match would suit United, who complete their group programme with a return visit to Old Trafford on December 9 while Barcelona are away to Brondby.

Not that Group D has become a two-horse contest. Bayern are equally strong contenders and even Brondby, in theory, could still finish top. The latter prospect may be somewhat remote but the crowd of 50,000-odd pouring into Old Trafford tonight should not assume that Ebbe Skovdahl's side are merely there for a third caning.

Manchester United will have to be as well organised and disciplined in their approach to this match as Ferguson will want them to be in Barcelona. Memories of the upsets sprung at Old Trafford

by Galatasaray and Fenerbahce, as well as the way Barcelona came back from 2-0 down to force a 3-3 draw there in September, should keep United on their guard.

"We have had enough European experience to know that it will be a hard game," Ferguson said yesterday. "Brondby beat Karlsruhe 5-0 in Germany two years ago and that's a warning to us. We know that if we make a mistake now it could cost us dearly."

Yet the rich vein of form which has brought United six wins and two draws since their 3-0 defeat at Arsenal should see them win with something to spare. Losing Ryan Giggs with a broken foot may yet cost United dear but for the moment at least Ferguson's options are relatively healthy. Jesper Blomqvist is the natural replacement for Giggs on the left wing while David Beckham, suspended in Copenhagen, will be on the right tonight.

With Denis Irwin fit, Ferguson need no longer improvise in the defence and the recovery of John Nicky Butt and Ronny Johnsen will give the manager a chance to save legs elsewhere. Nevertheless, the only change in United's starting line-up compared to the side which won 4-1 at Everton on Saturday is likely to be in replacing Wes Brown.

Brondby's slim hopes tonight have not been helped by the loss of Thomas Lindrup, suspended after a second yellow card, although their captain, John Jensen, the former Arsenal midfielder, is back from suspension.

*Manchester United (probable):* Schmeichel, P. Neville, O. Neville, Stein, Beckham, Keane, Scholes, Blomqvist, Cole, Yorke. Brondby (probable): Krogh, Colding, Hansen, Nielsen, Steffen, Blum, Duggard, Jensen, Ravn, Sogger, Sand.



Driving force... Graham Thorpe collects a boundary in his unbeaten 64 which helped England to a draw

IAN WALDE

Tour match: Western Australia v England XI

# Scorn poured on England

Mike Selvey in Perth sees the tourists seize the moral low ground and Langer rub it in

THIS game was supposed to be a learning experience and confidence booster for the second Test. But, if England are to take any succour into Saturday's match against South Australia in Adelaide, their psychologist Steve Bull will have to dig mighty deep to find it.

England drew the game with something in hand but, had it been a boxing match, Western Australia would have won a unanimous and convincing points decision. Justin Langer declared at 258 for three shortly before lunch, leaving England 282 to win in a minimum of 69 overs.

It was very gettable but England were hardly in for a shout, although John Crawley played enterprisingly at the start to make 65 and later Thorpe and Aspinall batted through two and a quarter hours to see them to safety with an unbeaten 64. Langer eventually pulled the plug with four overs remaining and England on 192 for four.

To describe England's overall performance as second-rate, however, bestows undue credit on it and later Langer could scarcely conceal his scorn. "If they play like that," he said, "it will be a long hard summer."

The Melbourne Cup was run yesterday and the team were greeted at their hotel in the morning by the unnerving sight of women transforming the lobby into a cross between Leaning Tower of Pisa and the Mad Hatter's tea party in order to sit in front of a television and watch an event hap-

pening 2,000 miles away. Popular myth has it that Australia grinds to a halt for the race but the only thing that appeared to come to a shuddering stop in Perth was England's competitive edge.

The day began with a smoke haze across the city, caused by an easterly wind and anti-bush fire measures of controlled burning in the ranges beyond Perth. The smoke might have come from Ryan Campbell's bat, however, as he took his overnight 117 to 146, the second-highest ever made for Western Australia against England, scored at a run a ball.

In all he hit 23 fours, the last four of them in succession off Angus Fraser — one bluffed over long-on, the next drilled straight past him, the one after pulled square when the bowler dropped his length and the final one thumped back over his head again — before he was caught at long-on off Robert Croft.

This was Croft's second wicket of the morning. In his first over, with a declaration already in mind and the second-wicket stand with Campbell worth 120, Langer beamed mightily and spiralled a catch to extra cover. Croft — a front-line bowler who is usually remembered, on the strength of a season that saw him finish 142nd out of 144 in the bowling averages — appeared pleased and no wonder. Since his three wickets in the second innings of the fourth Test in Guyana last winter he had bowled around a thousand deliveries for England and taken the single

wicket of Floyd Reifer in a match against Barbados. Fraser was just slaughtered. He of all the bowlers was always likely to find the adjustment in length most difficult on a true, bouncy pitch such as this his natural length is too short for the pace he bowls but he then over-compensates.

In England's last Test here in 1996 he had match figures of three for 158 and it may be that England will need to be selective in where they play someone who is regarded as indispensable.

The start to England's second innings was almost as dismal as it was to their first.

## Scoreboard

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA:** First innings 304-8 dec (S M Kanish 102, J L Langer 65, M Nicholson 58; Gough 7-4).  
**ENGLAND:** First innings 221 (M Hussain 118, M R Ramprakash 87; Nicholson 7-77).

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA:** Second innings 170-11 (J L Langer 65, M Nicholson 58; Gough 7-4).  
**ENGLAND:** Second innings 142-11 (J L Langer 65, M Nicholson 58; Gough 7-4).

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA:** Third innings 142-11 (J L Langer 65, M Nicholson 58; Gough 7-4).  
**ENGLAND:** Third innings 142-11 (J L Langer 65, M Nicholson 58; Gough 7-4).

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA:** Fourth innings 142-11 (J L Langer 65, M Nicholson 58; Gough 7-4).  
**ENGLAND:** Fourth innings 142-11 (J L Langer 65, M Nicholson 58; Gough 7-4).

Opening in Mark Butcher's absence, Dominic Cork demonstrated during his two-ball tenure that England will consider batting him at seven at their peril. The way Sean Cary squared him up with a short ball and had him caught at gully was embarrassingly easy.

Crawley's bat, though, had a pleasing ring to it and, with Nasser Hussain also timing the ball nicely after his first-innings century, a successful chase remained on the cards. But Hussain was succeeded by a slower ball, giving a catch to cover point, and then, immediately after tea, as Matt Nicholson went round the wicket, Crawley made a mess of a pull and was caught at cover.

Had the luck gone Western Australia's way now they might well have won, for Mark Ramprakash, a world away from the composed batsman of the first innings, almost played on, then survived a veement claim for a catch behind, both before he had scored, while Thorpe survived a chance to silly point off the left-arm slow bowling of Brad Oldroyd.

In fact the pair somehow survived together for 75 minutes, almost taking the game to the point where Langer would have called it a day, when Ramprakash played back to Oldroyd and was given out leg-before.

It gave Western Australia one last shot. Langer called up Nicholson, the bowling hero of the first innings, but Thorpe kept his composure and Hegg gleefully carved him through the offside to make his own personal point. With the high ground in his custody, Langer decided enough was enough.

# West Indies tour row over absent Lara

David Hopps

BRIAN LARA was involved in a display of brinkmanship with the West Indies Cricket Board in London yesterday amid speculation that he and nearly half the West Indies team were on the verge of pulling out of the forthcoming tour of South Africa because of an escalating financial dispute.

Lara, the West Indies captain, his vice-captain Carl Hooper and seven other players disregarded instructions to travel directly to South Africa from Bangladesh, where West Indies had been running-up in the Willis International Cup.

Instead they flew to London to press the squad's financial claims during an emergency meeting of the board. "Nine of the players are in London," a source

close to the players confirmed. "The action comes from the West Indies players, who want a better deal."

Lara has been no stranger to controversy during his West Indies career but in this latest feud he is clearly acting with the approval of his team-mates.

Since gaining the Test captaincy he craved Lara has become a more contented figure and spoke warmly at the end of the Willis one-day tournament, where West Indies had lost in the final to South Africa, of the increasingly "happy feel" within the squad.

The board's president Pat Rouseau initially suggested the attitude of Lara and Hooper was "particularly surprising" as an agreement had been reached with players' representatives about tour fees. Rouseau also condemned them for "ignoring written instructions" from

the team manager Clive Lloyd to fly directly to South Africa.

However, Roland Holder, the secretary of the Players' Association, insisted permission had been properly sought for Lara and Hooper to travel to London.



Lara... flew to London

Holder also played down suggestions that they were about to withdraw from the tour.

Such confidence was not being expressed in South Africa, however. Ali Bacher, the chief executive of the United Cricket Board of South Africa, said his counterpart in the West Indies, Steve Camacho, had informed him that the pair had pulled out of the tour. With the high ground in his custody, Langer decided enough was enough.

"Camacho told me that the tour will still take place and I believe that this will still happen," Bacher said. "Sally Malik, who recently had a poor Test series against Australia, has been dropped by Pakistan for the first one-day match against the tourists in Lahore on Friday."

## Tennis

# British pair in perfect symmetry

Stephen Horley in Paris

THE OUTSIDE walls of the Palais Omnisport in Bercy are covered in grass. This is not a reflection of the building's age or imminent demise. Far from it.

But to see this lush green vision every morning must cause Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski a wry smile. Normally the two associate being in France with springtime, the French Open and spitting clay at Roland Garros.

This year the pair suffered a double first-round defeat in the French Open. Yesterday, like a couple of Folie dancing girls, they performed again in almost perfect symmetry but this time winning their opening matches in the Paris Indoor Open.

Henman defeated the 19-year-old Frenchman Arnaud Di Pasquale 6-3, 6-3 and Rusedski beat Germany's No. 1 Nicolas Pietrangeli 6-3, 6-4, both taking an hour and eight minutes.

This time last year Rusedski was close to clinching his place in the end-of-season ATP Championships at Hanover. This time the roles are reversed with Henman pressing hard for a place.

It is still possible that Rusedski, if he were to win this tournament, might squeeze in but realistically he knows this to be unlikely. "I think it's going to be nearly impossible," he said.

Rusedski's match was on Court One which appears to be in the basement and feels positively subterranean. Lobs are out of the question which further enhanced the British No. 2's chances against Kiefer who, despite denials, has ob-

viously modelled his game on Andre Agassi, although to date he lacks the American's intensity of shot.

Rusedski had to fight off seven break points on his serve in the second set but he was never in serious trouble. Kiefer, who first came to prominence a year ago when he reached the quarter-finals at Wimbledon, is still only 21 and already ranked No. 34 but he frequently appears to have problems motivating himself. In this respect he is a true case of Agassi.

Di Pasquale was the world junior champion last year and is obviously an exceptional athlete. French journalists are fervently hoping he will be successful for no greater reason than he is a joy to talk to.

Henman was aware, as the senior pro, that he needed to lay a firm hand on the young French sprog, whose game is devoid of inhibitions. This he achieved, breaking the teenager's serve for an immediate 2-0 lead.

Both Henman and Rusedski must wait until today to find out their third-round opponents. Rusedski will play either Spain's Carlos Moya, the world No. 4, or Australia's Jason Stoltenberg while Henman faces a possible meeting with Yevgeny Kafelnikov, assuming the Russian defeats Sweden's Magnus Norman.

Steffi Graf, the former world No. 1 making her latest comeback from injury, defeated Romania's Ruxandra Dragomir in straight sets yesterday at the Leipzig Open.

Graf, who had an operation on her right hand, displayed flashes of the powerful forehand that dominated the women's game for a decade in ousting Dragomir 6-3, 6-3.

## Rugby League

# Stains to coach slipping Broncos

Andy Wilson

LONDON Broncos ended their search for a coach, naming successor to Tony Currie yesterday by appointing the former Cronulla forward Dan Stains on a two-year contract.

The Broncos had been linked with a host of Australians since parting company with Currie three weeks ago. Stains was not among them but he comes with strong Australian recommendation, from Jack Gibson, Arthur Beetson and Wayne Pearce.

Stains will attend Saturday's second Test between Great Britain and New Zealand in Bolton before getting down to the task of taking the Broncos back to their 1997 form, when they finished second in the Super League. The club slipped to seventh last season.

All 25,000 tickets for the

Bolton Test have been sold, with Great Britain needing to win to keep the series alive. Adrian Morley, the Leeds forward who missed Saturday's 22-16 defeat at Huddersfield, is still struggling with his ankle injury but the St Helens booker Kieron Cunningham expects to recover from the rib and facial injuries which forced him off in the second half.

Shaun Edwards will make his Ireland debut against France at Dublin's Tolka Park tonight. He is one of 11 Super League players who qualify because their parents or grandparents are Irish.

Two players from the Sydney club Parramatta have signed to play in the Super League next summer. Paul Caridge, a winger, will join Salford while Sheffield Eagles have signed Karl Lovell, a powerful 25-year-old three-quarter. Matt Ford has been appointed player-coach of Bramley.

## Sailing

# Top honour caps Ainslie's fine year

Bob Fisher

BEN AINSLIE, the Olympic silver medalist, has won the World Sailor of the Year award after a year in which he has been dominant in the 21-year-old has been synonymous with success.

Almost as soon as the Olympic silver medal in the Laser class was round his neck in Atlanta in 1996 he announced his intention of going one better four years later in Sydney and he has stuck diligently to that quest. By February of this year he had overtaken the gold medalist, Robert Scheidt of Brazil, in the world rankings.

Having begun by winning the Melbourne International regatta in January Ainslie went to Dubai eager to face Scheidt in what both acknowledged would be a showdown in the World Championship. The Briton beat Scheidt comprehensively and followed that with a win at Kiel Week.

Then he won the British National Championship and within a month had become European champion too with victory in Austria. He has also qualified Britain for a place in the Laser class at the next Olympics.

Carolijn Brouwer of the Netherlands, the 26-year-old world champion in the Europe class, is the women's world sailor, making 1998 undoubtedly the year of the young sailors.

## Sport in brief

### Boxing

Mike Tyson's return after a 15-month absence is expected to be against South Africa's Francois Botha at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas on January 16. Botha, handled by the promoter Frank Warren, is the No. 1 contender for Evander Holyfield's IBF title.

Jane Couch, who won a legal battle to fight in Britain, makes her domestic debut against the German Simona Lukic at Caesars night-club in London on November 25.

### Squash

Scotland's Peter Nicol will play Jonathan Power, his arch Canadian rival, in today's US Open final in Boston, their first meeting since the controversial Commonwealth Games final in Kuala Lumpur. Nicol moved through by beating Simon Parke and Power disposed of Nick Taylor.

### Rugby Union

Leeds Tykes look set to be disciplined by the Rugby Football Union — probably a deduction of two points — for playing Wendell Sailor against Rotherham last weekend even though the RFU is now prepared to sanction his clearance. The RFU has decided that the Australia wing's rugby league contract with Leeds Rhinos did not also require him to play union.

### Ice Hockey

Peterborough Pirates have released the Finnish winger Tey Saltski, who has scored only twice in 14 games, writes Vic Batchelder. "We need to strengthen our team in other areas," said Pirates' coach Troy Winkler.

# Team talk

The independent news and reports service

09066 16 86 +

Arsenal	60	Derby County	72	Nottingham Forest	54
Aston Villa	61	Everton	73	Oxford	55
Barnsley	62	Fulham	74	QPR	56
Barn. City	63	Grimsby	75	Rangers	57
Blackburn	64	Hudd. Town	76	Reading	58
Bolton	65	Ipswich Town	77	Sheff. United	59
Brentford	66	Leeds United	78	Sheff. Wed.	60
Burnley	67	Liverpool City	79	Southampton	61
Bury	68	Manchester City	80	Spurs	62
Cardiff	69	Man. City	81	Stoke City	63
Charlton	70	Man. United	82	Swindon	64
Cheltenham	71	Millwall	83	Sunderland	65
Cowesley City	72	Northampton	84	West Ham	66
Crystal Palace	73	Nottingham Utd	85	Wolves	67
Crewe	74	Norwich City	86		

CALLS COST 50p PER MINUTE OF ALL NETS. BURNLEY, 01753 551111. LIVERPOOL, 0171 718 4475

The Guardian INTERACTIVE



Rodber takes on lock's role, page 13  
Kiwis triumph at the races, page 13

Celtic exit in a flurry of goals, page 14  
Red faces for England in Perth, page 15

# SportsGuardian

Ten-man Vigo stun the home crowd

Uefa Cup, second round, second leg: Aston Villa 1 Celta Vigo 3 (aggregate: 2-3)

## Villa crumble under pressure

Paul Weaver

**A**STON VILLA's early season invincibility suddenly looked the stuff of booby history. Last night they were knocked out of this tournament when they were beaten 3-1 by their Spanish visitors.

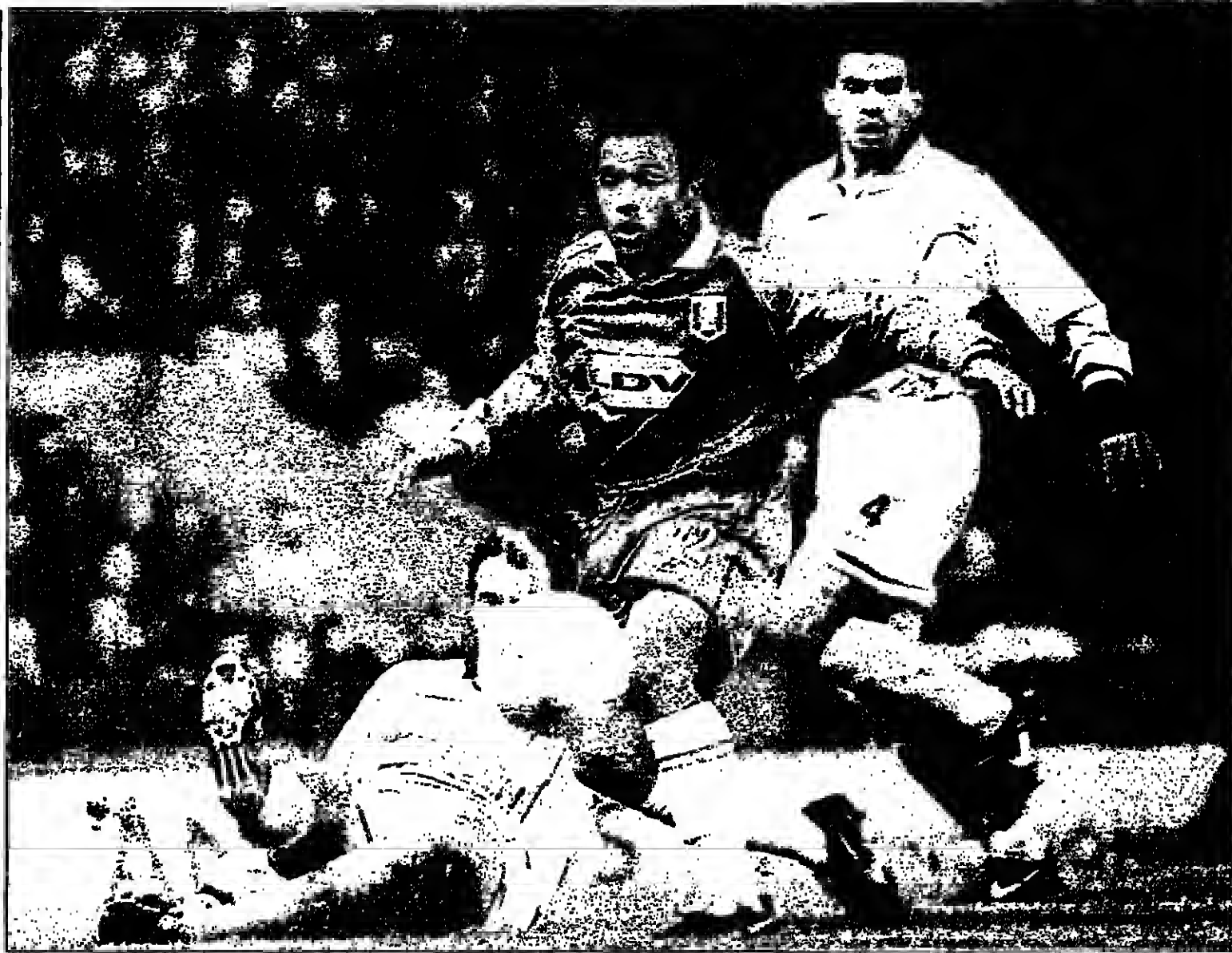
Following their 4-1 defeat by Chelsea in the Worthington Cup in their previous match, it means Villa have conceded seven goals in their last two matches. No one doubted the quality of the Spaniards following the first match two weeks earlier. But in view of Villa's 1-0 away win and the fact that they were reinforced in midfield for last night's match, the result was the source of bitter disappointment for the crowd of 25,910.

Vigo played the match with the easy confidence of a side whose run of eight unbeaten games had taken them to fourth position in the Spanish league. Villa, so often happy to sit back on their redoubtable defence and absorb pressure, had little say in the matter as the pale blue shirts of the visiting side swarmed around them.

It was little surprise, therefore, when the Spanish side took the lead in the 26th minute, Alexandre Mostovoi, whose movement and shooting power was to cause the Villa defence so much consternation on the night, threaded a fine through ball to Juan Sanchez who beat the Villa goalkeeper Michael Oakes with a low, clinical finish.

Villa had gone close to taking an early lead in the third minute when Julian Joachim, who had scored the only goal in the first leg in Spain, crossed from the right and Stan Collymore headed past Richard Dutreile. But the linesman flagged for offside.

Villa, however, were behind for only four minutes. The equaliser, on the half hour, had an element of good fortune about it. Ian Taylor



Middle man... Villa's Julian Joachim keeps his eyes on the ball as Vigo's Goran Djorovic attempts a tackle at Villa Park

PHOTOGRAPH: IAN HODGSON

burst into the box but as he was tackled by Mazinho the defender handled the ball as he slid in. Collymore made it 1-1 from the spot.

Vigo, like Villa, had only four minutes to feel sorry for themselves. Villa's Ugo Ehiogu fouled Sanchez on the edge of the area and Mostovoi's perfectly executed free-kick curled round the wall and into the bottom right-hand corner.

Villa were lucky to go in only one goal behind at half-time. Some delightful interplay between Valeri Karpin and Penev resulted in Mostovoi shooting just over the bar. Villa made the worst possible start to the second half. It was in only its third minute when Vigo went 3-1 up. Lee Hendrie conceded a free-kick on the left. It was taken by the ever-potent Mostovoi and Sanchez met it with a header which Oakes did well to get down to. But he could not hold the ball and Penev scored from close range.

Villa now required two goals but they almost pulled one back in the 55th minute when Alan Thompson hit the left post. The goalkeeper Dutreile gathered the ball rather nonchalantly on the rebound.

Two minutes later Villa's frustrated players received further encouragement. Rafael Borges, who had been booked towards the end of the opening half, was shown the

red card when he brought down Taylor. The Vigo bench responded immediately by bringing on Dan Eggen for Sanchez. But Vigo showed a marked reluctance to rely entirely on their defence.

Villa, who had been without Taylor and Thompson in Spain two weeks ago because they were suspended, and who last night replaced Mark Dreper and Riccardo Scimeca, should have been stronger, but they were consistently outwitted by Vigo's quicker thought and movement.

The three named footballers finish some way in front of the Conservative Party leader William Hague (250th), which is less surprising perhaps than the fact that they are within free-kick range of the famous boiling-water demonstrator Denis Smith (132nd) and the W H Auden lookalike Mick Jagger (139th).

More European football, pages 14 and 15

## New players in the real power game



Paul Weaver

**I**f you thought that movers and shakers were nifty cocktail waiters, bow-tied alchemists or magical makers of luminous neck-oll, the weekend came as something of a shock.

Movers and shakers are people with power and influence and according to Power 300, which sounds like a cold remedy or a list of Test triple centuries but is in fact an Observer/Channel 4 compilation of those who exert most daily influence on our lives, our precious little three score and 10 is being presided over by the sort of scrovy crew with whom you would be reluctant to entrust your goldfish.

Power 300 also includes more footballers than you could shake an offside flag at. It is another little shock, having overcome the grim realisation that despite long years bent over clattering Adlers and Olivettis, dog-eared dictionaries and thesauruses, having shown the patience of a glacier and reached that stage in life when detective chief superintendents look younger every day, I find myself as far away from said list as John Glenn's shuttle Discovery and remain firmly among the Powerless 60 Million.

Football is led by Ian Wright, a former plasterer, now a telephone salesman, admirer of Martin Luther King and occasional goalscorer for West Ham United, who is judged to be the 102nd most influential person in these islands. He is ahead of Alan Shearer (190th) and Michael Oweo (209th).

Defenders and midfield players, even those as well known as Paul Gascoigne and David Beckham, are left on the bench. So is the entire first-team squad of Sheffield Wednesday, which is rather surprising considering that Lord Hattersley was one of the judges.

The three named footballers finish some way in front of the Conservative Party leader William Hague (250th), which is less surprising perhaps than the fact that they are within free-kick range of the famous boiling-water demonstrator Denis Smith (132nd) and the W H Auden lookalike Mick Jagger (139th).

They are more central to our lives than James Boyle (222th), the controller of BBC Radio 4, and Baroness Thatcher (240th). They come in ahead of such arts, film and musical moguls as Sir Cameron Mackintosh (212th), Trevor Nunn (232nd), Kenneth Branagh (236th) and Lord Lloyd Webber (243rd).

The list, said to be the first of its kind, charts the decline of the Church, the aristocracy and the trade union leader in our everyday lives, and recognises the growing power of business and entertainment, money and media. And it reminds us of the strong influence of sport, and especially the sexiness of modern football.

There is also room for managers, although a few years ago they would surely have outnumbered the players. Newcastle United's Ruud Gullit (214th) nips in ahead of Manchester United's Alex Ferguson (221st) but there is no room for the England coach Glenn Hoddle. Perhaps the compilers had a tip-off from the Football Association's chief executive Peter Leaver QC (295th), who should not be confused with the former Lancashire and England fast bowler Peter Leaver.

Another football man recognised was the Arsenal vice-chairman David Dein, who appears one place above Leaver in the list.

Soddy, with another Ashes series just around the corner, not a single flannelled fool makes the cut. Chris Smith (45th) is not the former Hampshire and England batsman but the Culture Secretary.

**T**HERE are other disappointments. Eddie George (163th) sounds as if he should be a darts player but is, in fact, governor of the Bank of England. Gerhard Schröder (181th) should, one feels, be involved in wheel-to-wheel combat with Mika Hakkinen but happens to be the German chancellor. Formula One is represented by its Bernie Ecclestone, who lines up in 226th position on the grid. And John Bond (67th) is not the former maverick manager of Norwich and Manchester City but group executive of HSBC Holdings.

You might argue that such a list is subjective and controversial. But so are all lists, as Nick Hornby's protagonist discovered in *High Fidelity*. And having — along with three back-row class-mates — once blown an entire geography lesson thinking up alternative names for the male genitalia, I can tell you that lists are jolly important.

BRITISH GAS  
GUARANTEES  
CHEAPER  
ELECTRICITY  
UNTIL

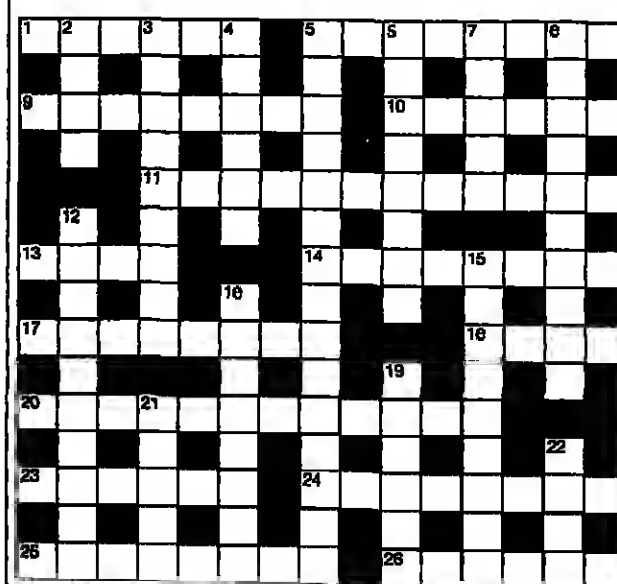
For our gas customers taking electricity from us on a domestic credit meter (terms and conditions apply)

**Igor Aleksander of Imperial College is working on a neural network called Magnus which he hopes might one day experience something called consciousness. Ian Pearson, a futurologist at BT, cheerfully predicts silicon intelligence enhancement and brain "add-ons" within 35 years. What's going on in your head?**

**G2 front**

### Guardian Crossword No 21,423

Set by Araucaria



#### Across

- 1 Detective story narrator heard enquiring about entertainment? (6)
- 5 County, river, and city old as the deluge? (6)
- 9 On-line promotion for pastry (4-4)
- 10 Take and keep trophy — awfully coy about it (6)
- 11 Observer of 9 teaches someone at the wheel (12)
- 13 Man in the house for the Rope (4)
- 14 In the beginning trousers are put on the box (6)
- 17 I am Logan the fruit tree (6)
- 18 Academic English is finished (4)
- 20 Characters from Peel County take mullered ale with big fish-eater (8,4)

- 23 Shed power from Don John's victory (4-2)
- 24 I'm surprised about illicit liquor being in 9 (4-4)
- 25 Fiddle return of age bracket (8)
- 26 Second childhood is when you get your downy (6)

#### Down

- 2 A qualification to be a neighbour (4)
- 3 Clasp deposit box before doin' office work (6-3)
- 4 Sweet nothing with argon for hydrogen (6)
- 5 The clear object (8,7)
- 6 Wide loop accommodated fire supply (8)
- 7 Loop good for bed? (6)
- 8 Sordid entanglement of Anne with St Paul (10)
- 12 The German disease means trouble with 9 (10)

- 15 Interrupt some indochinese with some delicacy, that is to say (8)
- 16 All OK with aid maybe of morphine? (8)
- 19 Top notes? (6)
- 21 Father's two letters crossing? (5)
- 22 Want to be extended (4)

#### Solution tomorrow

22 Stuck? Then call our solutions line on 0800 335 235. Calls cost 50p per minute at all times. Service supplied by AT5



When we supply you with electricity, we'll guarantee charges at prices that your local supplier can't beat. KEEPING PRICES ON LOW.

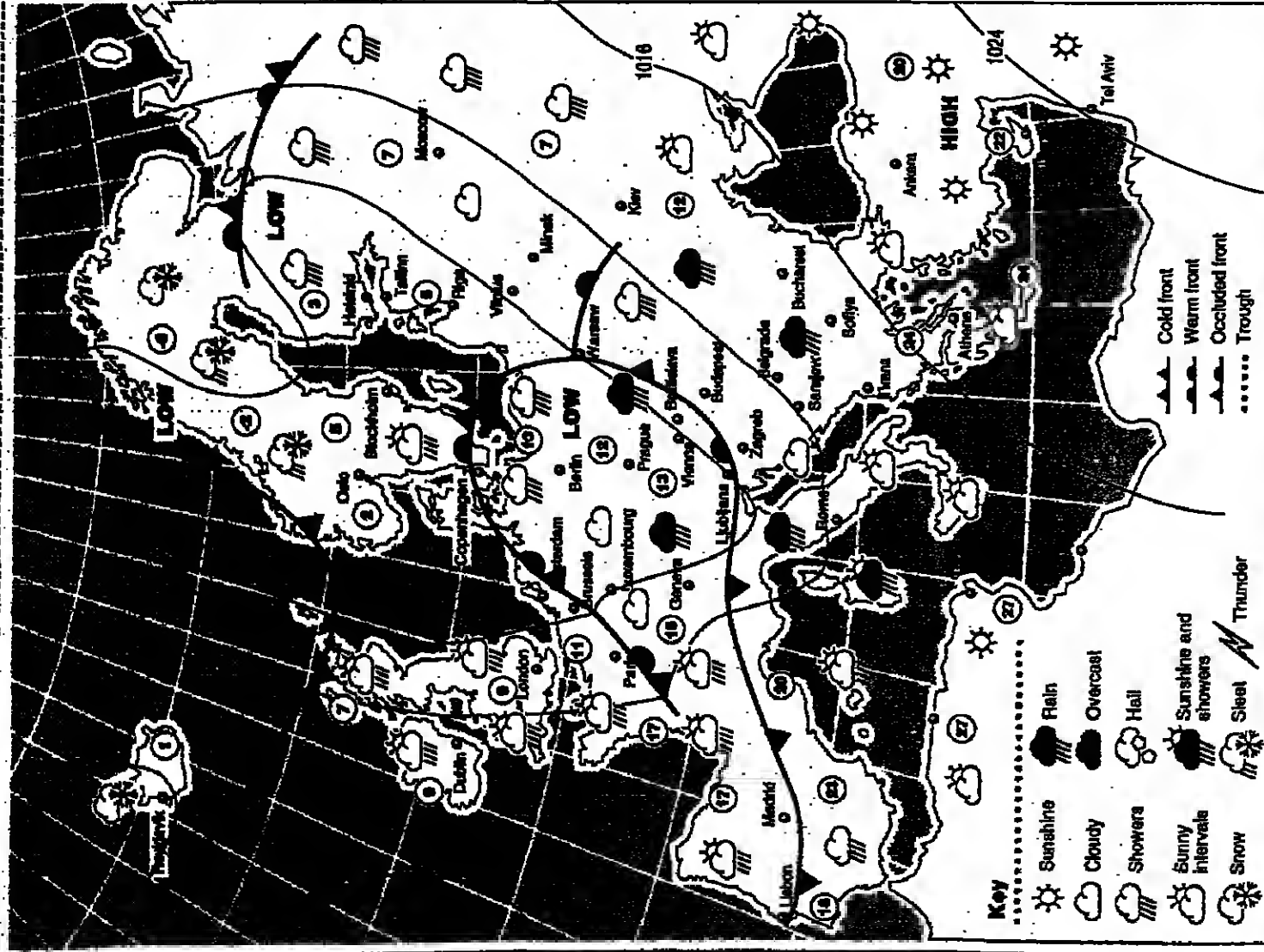
www.gas.co.uk/2001

TO APPLY CALL 0845 604 2001. **British Gas** Home Energy

سكرا من الاربعين



# The weather in Europe



## European weather outlook

A rather dull, cloudy day with some rain in the north and west, but only limited bright spells in the south. The rain will be of a drizzly nature, but in the north it may be more of a steady rain. In the south, there will be some bright spells, but the rain will be more of a drizzly nature. In the north, there will be some bright spells, but the rain will be more of a drizzly nature. In the south, there will be some bright spells, but the rain will be more of a drizzly nature.

## Around the world

City	Temp	Wind	Clouds	Precip
London	10	10	10	10
Paris	10	10	10	10
Rome	10	10	10	10
Moscow	10	10	10	10
Beijing	10	10	10	10
Tokyo	10	10	10	10
Sydney	10	10	10	10
Auckland	10	10	10	10
Wellington	10	10	10	10
Christchurch	10	10	10	10
Dunedin	10	10	10	10
Invercargill	10	10	10	10
Queenstown	10	10	10	10
Timaru	10	10	10	10
Christchurch	10	10	10	10
Dunedin	10	10	10	10
Invercargill	10	10	10	10
Queenstown	10	10	10	10
Timaru	10	10	10	10

© Copyright 1998 The Guardian. All rights reserved. The weather is a subject of great interest to many people, and this page provides a comprehensive overview of the current weather conditions across Europe and around the world.

# Television and radio

Channel	Time	Program
1	7.00	News
2	7.00	News
3	7.00	News
4	7.00	News
5	7.00	News
6	7.00	News
7	7.00	News
8	7.00	News
9	7.00	News
10	7.00	News
11	7.00	News
12	7.00	News
13	7.00	News
14	7.00	News
15	7.00	News
16	7.00	News
17	7.00	News
18	7.00	News
19	7.00	News
20	7.00	News
21	7.00	News
22	7.00	News
23	7.00	News
24	7.00	News
25	7.00	News
26	7.00	News
27	7.00	News
28	7.00	News
29	7.00	News
30	7.00	News
31	7.00	News
32	7.00	News
33	7.00	News
34	7.00	News
35	7.00	News
36	7.00	News
37	7.00	News
38	7.00	News
39	7.00	News
40	7.00	News
41	7.00	News
42	7.00	News
43	7.00	News
44	7.00	News
45	7.00	News
46	7.00	News
47	7.00	News
48	7.00	News
49	7.00	News
50	7.00	News
51	7.00	News
52	7.00	News
53	7.00	News
54	7.00	News
55	7.00	News
56	7.00	News
57	7.00	News
58	7.00	News
59	7.00	News
60	7.00	News
61	7.00	News
62	7.00	News
63	7.00	News
64	7.00	News
65	7.00	News
66	7.00	News
67	7.00	News
68	7.00	News
69	7.00	News
70	7.00	News
71	7.00	News
72	7.00	News
73	7.00	News
74	7.00	News
75	7.00	News
76	7.00	News
77	7.00	News
78	7.00	News
79	7.00	News
80	7.00	News
81	7.00	News
82	7.00	News
83	7.00	News
84	7.00	News
85	7.00	News
86	7.00	News
87	7.00	News
88	7.00	News
89	7.00	News
90	7.00	News
91	7.00	News
92	7.00	News
93	7.00	News
94	7.00	News
95	7.00	News
96	7.00	News
97	7.00	News
98	7.00	News
99	7.00	News
100	7.00	News

© Copyright 1998 The Guardian. All rights reserved. This page provides a comprehensive overview of the current television and radio schedules across various channels.

# G2

The Guardian Wednesday November 4 1998 Roy Greenslade 5 • NQ 7 • Crossword 15 • TV, Radio and European Weather 16

## Real Lives

What does your choice of partner say about you? 4

## Parents

How to tell the kids you're on drugs 8

## Arts

What force drives up the greasy pole? 10

## Plus

Talking about the weather in Buenos Aires 12



# Journey into the unknown

Tim Radford on the mysterious art of mapping the mind

PHOTOLOGICAL HEAD, CIRCA 1870, MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY







# Job Opportunities in Newham

## LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

### Head of Library Service

Up to £39,200

We are looking for an exceptional person with the vision, drive, skills and experience to lead and develop our Library Service across the borough of Newham. The successful candidate will be responsible for the strategic development of the service and for the challenge of the 21st Century.

The Borough of Newham is changing and growing rapidly. Our Library Service is a key part of the borough's identity and we are looking for a leader who can inspire and motivate the staff to deliver the highest quality service to the people of Newham.

To succeed in this important, demanding and challenging role you will need to be a dynamic and experienced senior manager with a proven track record in the development of services and staff.

- a radical thinker with a track record of successful service development
- committed to the provision of value for money services
- a skilled, effective agent for change with a track record in achieving it
- a strong leader with excellent management and motivational skills

Added to this, you must have first class communication and analytical skills, together with the ability to identify and implement opportunities for service development and partnership.

If you are up to the challenge, please call us for a recruitment pack.

Closing date: 2nd November 1998 at 5.00pm.

A successful candidate will be available on 0161 472 1400.

at: 21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

## LEGAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

### Deputy Head of Legal Services

Up to £47,600 p.a. inc. pay supplement

A dynamic solicitor or barrister with experience in planning and other general law relevant to local government. The successful candidate will be responsible for the strategic development of the service and for the challenge of the 21st Century.

Your primary role will be to manage the property services section, deputise for the Head of Legal Services, promote quality initiatives, participate in marketing the legal services and ensure delivery of high quality services to clients.

**Assistant Solicitor - 2 Posts**  
Up to £31,400 p.a. inc. pay supplement

A solicitor or barrister with knowledge of civil and criminal law. The successful candidate will be responsible for the strategic development of the service and for the challenge of the 21st Century.

**Assistant Solicitor**  
Up to £28,400 p.a. inc. pay supplement

A solicitor or barrister with knowledge and experience of contract and general law. The successful candidate will be responsible for the strategic development of the service and for the challenge of the 21st Century.

**Senior Conveyancing Assistant**  
Up to £27,500 p.a. inc. pay supplement

A solicitor, barrister or Fellow of the Institute of Legal Executives or equivalent training/experience is required to make an effective contribution to the Conveyancing team.

**Trainee Solicitor**  
Up to £16,200 p.a. inc. pay supplement

Two year Fixed Term Contract

Have you completed your Legal Practice Course and are you actively seeking a training contract? Look no further!

We are looking for a trainee with a 2.1 degree and enthusiasm to gain legal experience in local government. The work is diverse and there will be an opportunity to gain experience in the Social Services, Housing, General Litigation, Planning and Conveyancing teams.

Closing date for all posts: 27th November 1998  
Shortlisting will commence 30th November 1998  
Interviews: Week commencing 7th December 1998  
Apply to address no. 5.

**HOW TO APPLY**  
For further details and an application form for the above posts please reply to the Personnel Section at the following address: The Personnel Section, Borough of Newham, East Ham, London E6 6PU or tel 0161 472 1400 (ext 404) or email: newham@newham.gov.uk

No. 5.

No. 10.

No. 15.

No. 20.

# Job Opportunities in Newham

## LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

### Head of Library Service

Up to £39,200

We are looking for an exceptional person with the vision, drive, skills and experience to lead and develop our Library Service across the borough of Newham. The successful candidate will be responsible for the strategic development of the service and for the challenge of the 21st Century.

The Borough of Newham is changing and growing rapidly. Our Library Service is a key part of the borough's identity and we are looking for a leader who can inspire and motivate the staff to deliver the highest quality service to the people of Newham.

To succeed in this important, demanding and challenging role you will need to be a dynamic and experienced senior manager with a proven track record in the development of services and staff.

- a radical thinker with a track record of successful service development
- committed to the provision of value for money services
- a skilled, effective agent for change with a track record in achieving it
- a strong leader with excellent management and motivational skills

Added to this, you must have first class communication and analytical skills, together with the ability to identify and implement opportunities for service development and partnership.

If you are up to the challenge, please call us for a recruitment pack.

Closing date: 2nd November 1998 at 5.00pm.

A successful candidate will be available on 0161 472 1400.

at: 21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Apply to address no. 10.

0161 472 1400

21001 (Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm)

Head case... most of the brain

is in this computer

enhanced X-ray is the left

hemisphere which houses

memory and higher

cerebral thought

processes

SCIENCE

NOVEMBER

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

1998

The picture shows

the brain of a

patient who has

been treated with

the new drug

which has been

shown to be

effective in

treating the

condition.

The picture shows

the brain of a

patient who has

been treated with

the new drug

which has been

shown to be

effective in

treating the

condition.

The picture shows

the brain of a

patient who has

been treated with

the new drug

which has been

shown to be

effective in











## Chief Executive

**D**irector, Alan Wilson, has been appointed to the position of Chief Executive of the Independent Health Services (IHS).

The IHS is responsible for providing prescribing/dependent information which is the basis for payments amounting to over £5 billion per year to 11,000 independent contractors within the primary health care sector in England and for the NCT and IHS information services provided to the NHS Executive, Health Authorities and over 27,000 GPs.

As the Accountable Officer, the Chief Executive will provide strategic and operational leadership to achieving the Authority and managing an annual budget of £45m and approximately 2,000 staff.

To meet the challenges of this demanding role, it is likely that the candidate will have:

- ▶ a proven ability to develop a strategic approach to business planning;
- ▶ a proven ability to develop a strategic approach to business planning;
- ▶ excellent communication, presentation and negotiation skills;
- ▶ strong leadership qualities;
- ▶ information skills and application forms are available from the Human Resources Division, Prescription Pricing Authority, Bridge House, 152 Regent Street, Newcombe, London W1B 6SN or by telephone (0171) 205 5333.

Closing date: 20 November 1998.  
Interview will be held on 16 December 1998.  
The IHS is an equal opportunity employer.

Salary within the range £35,000 - £84,500



## Assistant Project Director

Joint Reviews of Social Services

The Audit Commission and Department of Health and the Welsh Office work together to improve social services through their developing programmes of Joint Reviews. This examines the overall performance of each local social services authority - identifying and promoting best practice to achieve better service delivery and value for money.

In this senior high profile appointment reporting to the Project Director, your principal objective will be to project manage, and bring to a successful timely conclusion, a programme of twelve reviews each year. Primary responsibilities of the role include: leading and guiding reviews; ensuring the quality of reports and their presentation; maintaining close liaison with Chief Executives, Social Services Directors and key regional stakeholders to ensure that review findings are clearly understood and followed up and continuously monitoring and implementing the skills development needs of review teams to optimise resources.

In such a highly sensitive area, personal credibility in a wide range of settings will be crucial to your success. Therefore your background must include a track record of achievement either as a senior social services executive or consultancy. The ability to manage complex projects simultaneously with all the associated political pressures is essential, together with the necessary confidence and sensitivity to handle the media. Of equal importance will be your team leadership qualities in ensuring the quality and efficient delivery of projects. The job will be based in London with the possibility of a regional location and will involve travel across England and Wales.

A contract will be offered for up to three years with options for secondment or direct employment.

For an informal discussion about the role, please telephone Andrew Webster on 0171 630 0105.

For an information pack please contact Matt Malone, Audit Commission, Nicholson House, Lifford Close, Stoke Gifford, Bristol BS34 8SU or telephone 0117 923 6757 (0117 975 1964 - 24 hour answerphone).

Closing date: 30 November 1998.

Assessment date: One day, week commencing 7 December 1998.

Interview date: 15-17 December 1998.

WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER AND A NON-SMOKING ORGANISATION.



Joint Review of Social Services



## Come and train in the USA - and get paid!

### Social Service and Youth Workers

American Youth Work Center seeks enthusiastic, 21-30s, experienced in youth work, social work, child welfare, youth justice, probation or learning difficulties, for 18 months paid practical training in the United States. Placements available in New England, Pennsylvania and elsewhere.

Professionals with experience of working with developmentally disabled populations are strongly encouraged to apply.

Applicants experienced in work with disturbed adolescents in residential or wilderness settings are also welcome.

Black applicants especially welcome. Qualified COUPLES particularly needed to work in residential/day treatment program for emotionally handicapped students and developmentally disabled children and youth in New England. For further information and application form, please send S.A.E. (9" x 6", 1st class stamp) as soon as possible to:

Valerie Sutcliffe, AYWC, CYWS, Casey Community Rooms,  
2 Tower Street, Leicester, LE1 6MR  
DEADLINE for completed applications: Friday, December 18, 1998  
INTERVIEWS: London week of 15th February, 1999

## Meeting the greatest challenge of community care

Tulip is a charitable voluntary organisation set up to develop and provide unique and quality services to children and young people with mental health problems, which are otherwise unmet. We are seeking national recognition for creating highly innovative community mental health services. We are based in Haringey, North London, with new developments in Newham and Enfield, all of which have rich and culturally diverse populations.

### Executive Director c. £35,000

We are appointing a successor to Deborah Davidson, who is highly skilled in a new national initiative, being established and led Tulip for the first ten years. We are looking for someone to build on these achievements and shape the future of Tulip, someone with a proven track record, and the resources and determination to fulfil this role.

Closing date: 25 November, 1998.

## Cumberlow

A Partnership of NCH Action for Children and the Peter Hawer Foundation

Cumberlow is a specialist measure designed to care for and treat young people with extraordinary needs and who present exceptionally challenging behaviour. Our holistic treatment approach including an education and activity programme is based on psychoanalytic theory and the best principles of residential care. In the with our commitment to provide good modelling and a balanced structure we wish to appoint a:

### FEMALE DEPUTY DIRECTOR £33,440 (46) - £36,399 (49)

To work alongside the Director in managing the outstanding resource.

The successful candidate will have appropriate experience in managing a large team of staff and a proven track record in managing and developing a multi-disciplinary team with special responsibility for: Management of the residential unit; Training, recruitment and supervision; Oversight of high quality therapeutic provision; Provision of high quality therapeutic provision; Provision of high quality therapeutic provision; Provision of high quality therapeutic provision.

For more information and an application form please send a large A4 to the Andy Phillips - Senior Administrative Assistant, Cumberlow Community Ltd, 24 Chalfont Road, London SE26 4AA.



Faust among equals... Neil McKinnon plays a councillor who seeks his soul for power in 1984's new satire, *Dissent*

What *Dissent* does very successfully is dramatise the process by which grassroots support is traded for influence inside the party. By the end, Grey is diminished in the eyes of his erstwhile-pink daughter and her mother, a fearless community-education worker. But equally he has demonstrated that he can play hard ball with the Tories and spin doctors who sought to manipulate his career.

The party is a broad church but sometimes you just have to sit where you're told, says Grey's political mentor, in one of the jokes that define the play's intent. Greenhorn identifies a



Don't call me that... John Crowley

he made his British debut at the National Theatre. His alliance formed a strong relationship with Britain's own wunderkind, Sam Mendes, at London's Donmar. Sam and I have shared tastes but different ideas," says Crowley, who is now an associate director at the theatre.

PHOTOGRAPH BY LINDA MACKAY

## Hot

**Shookhead Peter**  
Pamela Macdonald and Julian Coughlin's brilliant adaptation of Shakespeare's brilliant and fantastic tale of unruly children. *Wendell and Willie*, Comedy (12:30 02:45, 11:30 Sunday).

**Amadeus**  
David Schickel is a superb Salieri, waging war against God and Mozart in Peter Shaffer's metaphysical whodunnit. *Patric Hall*, Drama, Oct 16, London (0171-444 5573, 11 January).

**Our Country's Good**  
Timberlake Wertenbaker's classic war epic set in Australia's first theatre production. *Max Stafford* directs. *Liverpool* (0151-708 4176), 11 Saturday.



# Arts Theatre



BOX OFFICE: 01789 295623

Guardian  
Teleshare

**24 hour Real-Time access to  
UK share prices**

**0901 470 7600**

Key the 4-digit code.

## Portfolio Service:

0171 729 8288

THE INFORMATION SERVICE, LONDON EC2A 4PF.  
0901 CALLS COST 60P PER MINUTE.

***The Guardian* Interactive**

While old lefties whinge about the rotten state of Westminster, Scotland is worrying about the next threat. By **Eddie Gibb**

# Temptation of a nation

politics and jokes in the same show, it was almost a foregone conclusion that one of the two would be the headliner. While Thurgood Marshall was the first to be named, the other was not far behind. All too often, the two have been named by the critics for failing to land on the weak-  
**U**ses of funds with their New Labour satire Ugly Mummies, Scottish writer Stephen Greenham has penned a sharp comedy that looks at the Government from a very different angle.

Sure, there are jokes about pagers and spin-doctors, but Greenham has demonstrated that these trappings of power are not the only things about New Labour worth satirising. Unlike Ugly Mummies (which opened in London this week), *Dissent* does not dwell on the personalities of New Labour but focuses on the motives that drive politicians up the greasy pole.

It is particularly interesting that this streetwise comedy comes from a radical Scottish theatre company of 1984. The company is celebrating its 20th anniversary, and for 18 of those years it operated under a Conservative government, which provided a ready target for its populist brand of political theatre. In Greenhorn, who is 34, it has found a writer, who has lived almost all his adult life under the Conservatives. As such, he is able to look at the Labour government with fresh eyes. Unlike Brenton and Ali, he cannot be accused of being stuck in seventies radicalism.

Greenhorn has set his comedy on Scotland's West Coast, where the political scene is more complicated than simply a power struggle between Brown and Blair. Here he can play with the tensions between Glasgow's

**The Crowley brothers  
vowed never to work  
together. Then along  
came Sondheim...  
By Lyn Gardner**

# Side by side

unscrupulous socialist grassroots and the party modernisers, and the future of the Edinburgh parliament. This is part of the world where the Real Labour Party has done splendid jobs of sending itself up.

First there was the attempt to unseat Glasgow provost Pat Lally, whose alleged misdeeds included taking a bunch of dumplings to Edinburgh to see the fireworks at the Tattoo. Then, an embarrassing Union strike allowed hot-to-Trot union organisers, Roddy Storch to rekindle memories of loony-left town-hall politics. And now disgraced Leicester-based MP Tommy Graham is threatening to name names in the Commons in an apparent attempt to take his political enemies down with him.

**W**ho director John Crowley got his hands on Sound-  
Gents first, the musical  
from The Whoos, he knew who  
wanted to design it — his big brother  
Robert. The trouble was, the two had  
grown newer to become a double act.  
By the time of their 16-year age gap, they were  
thrust into different generations.

Nonetheless, recalls Crowley,  
"I had this awful gut feeling that Bob  
was the only designer I wanted to  
partner with the job. It's such a diffi-  
cult musical. But when I asked him,  
no recollection as if I'd just asked him,  
on an e-date, and told me not to be  
over-the-top, he said, 'I'll be persuaded  
to change his mind.' I didn't  
believe it. I persuaded himself. Over the next  
few weeks I could see he was fitting  
with the idea. He kept asking me,  
'Who I was going to get to do it?'

A few weeks into rehearsal, the

## Notes & Queries

Undiplomatic immunity ● Super gas ● Empire state ● Rotten rings and smiling circles

**H**as a fire station ever burned down? On May 1991, the Central Fire Station in Bortle, Merseyside, was bombed, and the upper floors burned out; at the last moment, water became available and the fire was held away from the appliance room street level, though the station was out of commission for months. In London, Wandsworth fire station was set alight in November 1940 and Redcross St. in December.

*A.B. Sinagra, London S23*

**A**S our village station was badly damaged by fire a few years ago, I believe there were two firemen there when it started and one of them asked a neighbour to use his phone to call the fire brigade.

*David Holmes, Yutton, Bristol*



**At the ready... Fireman Sam would know a thing or two about blazing at fire stations.**

to be gained from using a grade that is 15¢ per liter more expensive. Does anyone know?

• Super unleaded has a higher Octane rating (99) than normal unleaded (93). Achieving this additional rating requires more refining, so that expensive additives, now that the cheaper lead additive cannot be used. It also attracts a higher rate of use. It also attracts a higher rate of use. It also attracts a higher rate of use.

Since 1987, new cars sold in the UK have been required to run on normal unleaded fuel and super unleaded has no effect on these cars. However, for older high-performance cars designed to run on 98 Octano petrol, a noticeable decrease in performance results if the engine is returned to run on 95 petrol.

*Matthew Gains, Swansea, Middle-*

Following the break-up of the USSR, which country now has the largest empire?

● Andrew Rice's answer is unsatisfactory (Notes & Queries, September 1991).

● That depends on whether Pinchot is correct in his belief that capital punishment and lynch law are morally justifiable.

Michael Givirelli, Hillsden, Bucks.  
 By all means, go ahead. But who  
 needs diplomatic immunity? Just  
 change your name by deed poll to  
 (say) "Ernest Saunders" and you  
 would be a free woman before you  
 could say "mass torture in Santiago  
 stadium." Good luck.  
 Peter Bradshaw, Liverpool.


Without success, I have asked attendants at numerous petrol stations about the difference between unleaded and super plus unleaded petrol, and what is

overseas territories in every ocean of the world, this expands to over 11 million square kilometres. This ocean empire includes French Polynesia, with over 6 million square kilometres of EEZ — lots of fish and seabed minerals to exploit, in an area larger than Western Europe.

*Nic MacLellan, Suva, Fiji*

**Who sent the first e-mail? When? What did it say?**  
Ray Tomlinson, an engineer at Bolt Beranok and Newman Inc. (BBN, Cambridge, Mass.) sent the first e-

ers in 1979. (Timlinson was a credited for creating the @ sign in e-mail addresses). I have no idea what the coolents were, but if the first e-mail was anything like the billions that followed, it was probably: a) some unrequested information about a BBN product; b) an unsolicited invitation to visit an x-rated Website; c) a message asking



**whether the recipient got Ray's earlier e-mail.**  
***Stephen Saunders, New York.***

♣ In addition to the answers given (Notes & Queries, October 21), British Telecom operates a Take Back Scheme. Owners of unwanted mobiles can take them to one of BT's communication centres, which will sort them for manufacture or recycle. The coordinator of this scheme, Paul Daines, can be reached on 01420-587261.

**Chris Lowe, Tyler Hill, Kent.**  
 ● The question is not only what can we do with my analogue mobile phone when I convert to digital, or digital when I go satellite, but what can I do with my analogue television, my analogue radio, my tape-deck, etc? Recent research in Australia indicates that no one has even started thinking about the waste-disposal implications of digitalisation. Perhaps there should be a rule that if

**Cameron Tinkin, EcoDesign Foundation, Roselle, NSW, Australia.**

**Why is it only the finger tips and toes that go wrinkly when you have been in the bath too long? Would the rest of me go wrinkly if I stayed longer?**

● It is not that we have more skin on our fingers and toes (Notes & Queries, October '7), it's that we have no oil-producing cells in those parts, so the skin gets waterlogged. We inherit a lack of oil cells either because it would have made our ancestors' fingers and toes slippery, or they'd have fallen out of the trees, or perhaps the oil cells were left out to make room for extra nerve endings.

It seems impossible to find buttermilk — to drink, that is — in the UK. What happens to liquid left over after butter is churned? And where can I find it?

© Buttermilk, essential for my soda bread, was made by Ratnes Dairy

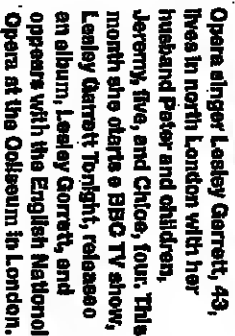
Why are rings (paedophile, drug) nasty, but circles (family, friends) nice?



# Happy days

A parent's guide to fun with the kids

## Lesley Garrett



Chances are, you'll find out on the day, like Phineas of Wales. A brilliant day. Because I was only hurting for an hour or so, easy on, we took the children knowing we could leave when they were tired. It was their first open-air concert. The weather was awful, really muddy, which they loved! Then the sun came out. We were with friends and the atmosphere was wonderful. The children clapped at about 10.30pm. It was the first time they saw what I do.

**Worst day ever:** We were driving up to Yorkshire to visit my family about a year ago. It rained torrential rain. The roads kept being closed because of flooding, putting us onto smaller and smaller roads. The children were fed up with being cooped up in the car. It was cold, wet and dark. We'd run out

For all the hoopla, *Favorites* is a bookie's choice: loves the *Fremont* Sam series, and Jeremy's in *Munchies* Twelve Chocolate Bar. *Phines* For The Very Young, com-

Little Skywalker highlands. Choe loves *Wednesday*, especially *swimsuits*. Most awkward question: Since a very close friend of mine died, Choe has continually questioned us on death and heaven. Usually at 3am needing an NCOW! The most difficult: "When you die do you keep the same head and legs?"

**benefit from training it. Enjoy every minute, even making the best of do-  
times.**

# Why's she so special?

like it. I wanted our family to be with everyone else."

It never was. "Having a child with special needs is a tremendous shock for everyone involved," says Lenz. "After Erica got her diagnosis as a baby, nothing was ever the same again for any of us. She had been a bright little thing, always giggling and smiling. Suddenly she just lay in her cot doing nothing. It was such a shock — she had changed so much."

Planning things became impossible. "You never knew what was going to happen," says Lenz.

Montic believes that those with disabled brothers or sisters often have their own needs overlooked. She speaks from personal experience — one brother died a baby from congenital fibrosis, and another brother has Down's syndrome. "There's this tremendous sense of grief and loss in the family. The mine, she says. "Often it's something you haven't had a chance to work through, because, quite simply, everyone else in your family is too busy dealing with their own emotions to help with yours."

to happen, you had to expect the unexpected at every turn. Days out and holidays were fraught with difficulties. We once flew to South Africa six times and were held up there for six hours in the middle of the night without Erick's wheelchair, which had been lost. There was only one place open for food, and it didn't have anything she could eat. Whenever we

**Not** hestitant to get enough of their parents' attention was another frustration for Linzi. "I remember once crying my eyes out because I wanted them, and no one came," she says. "I suppose they knew I was there really, but [it seems] how they always sort of ignored me."

Momira agrees with Linzi's claim. "I also had to do a lot of domestic things to help my parents. That's the down beside it to help him sleep at night; it made me feel a bit resentful that I couldn't watch TV in his room, even though he was sleeping around me, and when friends were here we wouldn't get out as freely as our peers, because he'd mess them up."

Linzi, difficulties were compounded by the fact she didn't know where to go for help. "I was so embarrassed by the fact she didn't know how to ask for help," says Linzi. "When she'd come to me, I'd tell her to go to the pediatrician. But she didn't know anyone in a similar situation."

**Sibling rivalry... Val Doherty with Fronoesca and Charlotte. Val says: 'Fronoesca hates the fact she and Charlotte are treated so differently.'**

**PHOTOGRAPH: OBERLIT RADCLIFFE**

have 'normal' family activities because of the logistics involved - you can't just go off to McDonald's or the cinema together. There's virtually

no spontaneity in your family life. And often there's not enough space either. Many siblings find themselves romantically surrounded by noise and disruption."

That scenario rings a lot of bells with Val Doherty, mother of 11-year-old Francesc and nine-year-old Charlott, who has spastic quadri-

plegic cerebral palsy. She says she constantly trying to find "quality time with Francesca." "I spend a lot of time with Francesca because I'm

time with children, especially as a single parent, but it's just doing a the rhorts. I try to explain that Froese, but from her point of view

In a time with Christine and not much with her, Francis leaves the fact she and Charlotte are treated so differently. People are always coming to the house to see Christine because of her disability. Although some are interested in Francis too, others in-

For more information on Monica McCall's conference and her plans to set up a national sibling organisation, contact her on 01835

something else that's often missing in fan-fiction, it's a major expedition." Charonte, it's a major expedition.

ded, too, about who would rare for him when his parents got too old."

One thing siliogir like Montie, Lint and Phamre usually agree on is that, however difficult life has been

**Read on...**

lies with special needs children is fun. Having fun is what childhood is about," explains Mon-

at times, they wouldn't be without their sibling. "Sometimes you find someone who does want their disabled brother or sister had never

**In print**  
Babies, Senses and Learning Disability: A Guide for Parents by Rosemary Jones, BLU Publications, Whitehaven Road, Kidderminster, Worcestershire DY10 3AP

idea. "But opportunities for it can be few and far between. Parents are often so weighed down by stress and worry that completely misle and misunderstanding and sensitive than we

And as children with disabled abilities learn to grow up with a

**Tug of love . . .**  
**Paula Yates**  
frees a custody  
battle over  
heavily  
Hiroson Tiger  
Lily, her  
daughter by  
Hutchence,  
after she began  
a relationship  
with an ex-  
marin addict  
**PHOTOGRAPH BY**  
**UNIVERSAL**

Michael Hutchence, Hutchence's father, launched proceedings for his son's death. Hutchence was not charged with the murder of his son, but he was charged with the murder of his son's mother, who was charged with the murder of her son. Hutchence was charged with the murder of his son's mother, who was charged with the murder of her son. Hutchence was charged with the murder of his son's mother, who was charged with the murder of her son.

worried about his man's health. But what about the less extreme cases? According to Jane Powell, who teaches social work and other professionals in how to assess the risks to children in drug-using families, the key questions are: what do the parents use, how often and in what circumstances? "Rather than take a moral position, it is important to establish in what ways a parent's drug use is affecting the care of the children. For example, if someone has to take 4800 a day

In front of him, but I think he would be quite concerned if he knew we were taking anything else."

Why then was younger it was much easier. I don't feel guilty. I think it is better to take the drugs than drink with children around. You are able to come round quicker when you need to. Yes people think nothing of going to parties with their children and getting plastered."

Since the baby was

Did summer school change you, too?  
Did you fall in love?  
Did it and your partner?  
Did it make you a new person?  
Researcher would like to talk to  
pass/resent students

Please call Mary 0161-478 0645

**Open University**

to score a genuine reaction, you won't have a lot of time left to rave for their pill.


"On the other hand, some parents cope very well and only feel they run into management with a stable and trusted pattern of drug use than if they tried to go completely drug-free," says Dr. Lofgren.

They're talking mainly about people with major coping habits of their own.

**don't we've had coke twice but it didn't feel right?**

Now make a new habit to tell their children about their own drug use is a big one for parents, both because of fears about children's lack of discretion, but

**ANIMAL LOVERS**

**GIVE**  a stressed dog, floppy, deaf, incontinent, anal, hard, 107701, COW QUINN

**GIFT** or, at least, **one** (in 23 years) has created twice as many photos and needs creative answers and tips to meet them. We asked our resident experts for their own research answers, and can't wait to read yours. Write to: **Gifts**, in relation to our work, and give us your e-mail address.

**Wildlife Animal Sanctuary**  
Ms. Lane, Ardmore, Nevada  
Dear Lane: I am writing you in re-

has been using cannabis, cocaine and Ecstasy for several years.  
"I know an enormous number of parents who use drugs," she says.

Tom is 60 and has smoked cannabis more or less daily since

**Hiilela 1998 Calendar**  
12 hand-drawn scenes  
in color. £1.95

**IN 12 EU** (0) 01803 801466  
**IN 12 EU** (0) 01803 801466

**Animal Season Christmas Cards**  
\$2.75 (Pack of 8)  
Prices include P&H. Prompt Delivery

Credit card orders & donations welcome  
**Cheques payable please to:**  
**Mildred Albert Secretary Ltd.**  
 (Co. Reg. 3027236)

**Tug of love...**  
Paula Yates  
toose a custody  
battle over  
Heavenly  
Hiraoni Tigor  
Lily, her  
daughter by  
Hutchence,  
after she began  
a relationship  
with an ex-  
heroin addict

"We've always taken the attitude that if we were as open and honest as possible, they would be likely to reciprocate by being open with us. "They were going to try things anyway, I'd rather they did it with us, which they have done. We told them heroin, morphine and crack are deadly things they play with at their peril. It's never been a problem. They are too interested in life."

**Open University**

Did summer school change your life?  
Did you fall in love?  
Did it end your marriage?  
Did it make you a new person?  
Researcher would like to talk to  
past/present students.

Please ring Mary 0161-478 8243

**ANIMAL  
LOVERS**

**GIVE  
AN  
UNUSUAL**

Adopt a rescued pig, donkey, duck, or—freshwater, goat, lamp, [777] COW

(until late January, to  
 receive both a yearly photos and news.  
 Chances are, you'll want to feed and  
 care for our rescued animals.  
 Write for details of our work and gifts to:  
**Hillside Animal Sanctuary,  
 Hall Lane, Pottersham, Norwich  
 NR12 7JU Tel: 01603 881227  
 Fax: 01603 891458**  
**Hillside 1989 Calendar**  
 12 Sanctuary Scenes  
 in colour - £3.95

Amish against Unruly Cars  
\$2.75 (Pack of 8)  
Prices include P&H. Prompt Delivery  
Credit card orders & donations welcome  
Checks payable please to:  
Millside Amish Sanctuary Ltd.  
(Co. Reg. 3027335)

هكذا من الاصل